

**Why Not Give Subscriptions  
To the Western Worker for  
Presents on New Years Day**

LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY  
BERKELEY  
4D-EXCH-R

## Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.  
(Section of the Communist International)

**The United Front Released  
Herndon; The United Front  
Can Free the C. S. Prisoners**

VOL. 4, No. 104 (Whole of No. 264)

Entered as Second Class matter April 27th, 1934 at the post office, at San Francisco, Calif. Under the Act of Mar. 3, 1979.

SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY, DEC. 30, 1935

The Western Worker appears twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays

Price Five Cents

### RELIEF DEFICIT PILING UP; WPA PAY HELD BACK

FUNDS ONLY SUFFICIENT  
FOR HALF EXPECTED  
CASE LOAD

#### Crisis Approaches

UNEMPLOYED WORKERS IN  
ORGANIZED STRUGGLE  
FOR LIFE

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 25.—“More than half of the 100,000 families on relief in this county will never again be able to compete for industrial employment, or for other positions from which they gained a living!”

This frank admission of the crisis of capitalism was made here yesterday by Archibald Young, chairman of the Citizens' Relief Committee, at a state-wide conference being held by relief administrators and business men to discuss the “relief situation.”

Meeting in the Chamber of Commerce Building, a committee of seven investigators yesterday reported the following facts:

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Unemployment cases will “be far in excess” of the number to be absorbed by the WPA.

The Los Angeles County Relief Administration has had to expend large state sums to care for unpaid WPA workers.

After January 1, state funds will be only sufficient to care for 44,000 cases, although the case load will be more than 80,000 for the entire state.

A January deficit of \$14,440,000 and a February deficit of \$640,000 are expected.

**THREE MILLION DEFICIT**

Chairman Herbert C. Legg, of the County Board of Supervisors, reported that the county will have a deficit of two to three million dollars in its charities department before the fiscal year.

J. W. Buzzell, secretary of the Central Labor Council, stated that employment “has increased only 1.5 per cent, although industry has improved 25 per cent during the past year. Buzzell offered no solution and has thus far refused to aid WPA workers and other unemployed workers in their struggle for more adequate relief and for trade union wage rates on the WPA jobs.

### Realtors Won't Rent To Workers on WPA

ST. LOUIS, (FP)—WPA workers, already harassed by the difficulties of providing food and clothing for their families on \$55-a-month wages, are facing the prospect of living in the damp cellars of St. Louis' most rundown buildings. The city's Real Estate Exchange, in a move to forestall a boycott, has advised its members not to lease property to WPA workers on the grounds that their wages do not permit their paying rent.

The Western Worker can be obtained at news stands. If your news dealer does not have it, ask him to stock it.

### Pre-Convention Discussion Opens

With the publishing of the resolution of the District Committee on the central political task of today—the Farmer-Labor Party—the pre-convention discussion is opened. During the period up to the 21st National Convention of our Party which takes place March 8-12, a thorough discussion shall be held in every section, sub-section and unit of the Party on the tasks outlined by the Central Committee Plenum in November, on the resolution of the District Committee, and on the work and tasks of the sections and units. In a spirit of self-criticism, the entire

### KLAN LINKED WITH MURDER

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 24.—Arlie F. Gillam and Ed Spivey, described by Sheriff J. R. McLeod as members of the Ku Klux Klan, were under arrest today in the flogging death of Joseph Shoemaker, Socialist leader and an organizer of the local Workers' Alliance.

Gillam and Spivey were arrested in Orlando, Fla., and brought here last night. “Gillam told me he was a former State officer in the Klan,” the sheriff said.

### AUTHORS BACK C. S. CAMPAIGN

Granville Hicks and Waldo Frank Send Endorsements

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—“The whole country is aware that one of the greatest battles against Fascism is being fought in California,” declares Granville Hicks, noted educator and author in a letter just received by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, organized to repeal the anti-labor C. S. Act and to free the Sacramento victims of the law.

#### HICKS ENDORSES

The campaign being carried on by the 190 organizations that compose the conference, which represents a quarter of a million trade union members, liberals and radicals, is given Hicks' enthusiastic endorsement. His letter continues:

“The growing terror on the West Coast only indicates what the whole country can expect if manual laborers, white collar workers, professionals and all lovers of justice and liberty do not unite to resist the onslaught of capitalism. You are on the firing line, and everyone throughout the United States must be ready to support you. I wish the conference the very greatest success.”

#### FRANK SUPPORTS

Similar encouragement is given by Waldo Frank, author and leader (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

### Pickets Get New Trial in L. A. for Leaflet Passing

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Obviously perjured evidence which was used to convict Arthur Howard and Frank Dupree of violation of the anti-picketing ordinance, has been thrown out and a new trial granted these workers.

Accused of distributing copies of the Voice of the Fleet to sailors of the U. S. Navy, the workers were confronted with a witness who said they had handed him a leaflet at 9 o'clock at night. On that same day, the workers had been in jail for three hours by 9 o'clock.

Workers are urged to send immediate protest to Benj. Scheinman, calendar judge of the municipal court here, demanding immediate freedom for Howard and Dupree.

## WAR! CHINA REBELS ITALY WARNS

Chinese Students in  
Protest Against  
Invasion

Secret Parleys to  
Finish Up Hoare-  
Laval Dirt

1. Martial law reigned in Nanking and Shanghai.  
2. Students lead a protest move against North China separation.  
3. The Italian line was crumbling before Ethiopian counter attacks.

3. Secret conferences moved toward final consummation of the robber deal which fell through while out in the open.

These were the highlights of the war situation in Europe. In the North of China, Japan has been crushing attempts at a people's revolt. In the North, the revolt focuses against Chiang Kai-shek who has agreed to cooperate with Japanese imperialism in North China.

When Japanese militarists first launched the “autonomy” move in North China, they declared its basis was Sino-Japanese cooperation against the “Red Danger” in China.

Chiang's affirmation of cooperation with Japan is therefore looked upon as complete capitulation to Japanese demands for the ac-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

### GALLUP MINERS' FAMILIES SEEK FUNDS AND FOOD

AID SOUGHT FOR NEEDY  
FAMILIES

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Jack Howe, militant fighter in the Gallup, N. M., Defense Committee, is here for a week's stay to collect funds and clothing for the families of the Gallup frame-up victims and for the families of the other impoverished miners of New Mexico.

Howe inaugurated his drive here for support by speaking at the Christmas concert for political prisoners, held by the International Labor Defense last Saturday night.

Workers who can contribute clothes or money to this cause are asked to contact Howe through the I.L.D., 127 So. Broadway, Los Angeles, Room 317.

Santa Claus a la Mussolini ★ ★



They learn fast, these little ones! Here are some of the European younger generation getting some Fascist culture for themselves. Wholesale bombings and gas attacks have been a feature of the great civilizing mission.

## Peace Group Meets In L.A., Blasts War

PLANS FORMED FOR NATIONAL  
MEET, FOUR DELEGATES ELECTED

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Representing 239,083 people in Southern California who are willing to fight for peace, the Regional Congress of the American League Against War and Fascism brought forth unanimously expressed opposition to the menace of war and fascism here at Danish Auditorium last Sunday.

Forty-three organizations, who were represented by 119 delegates, participated in forming the proposals to be acted upon locally and to be presented for consideration by the National Peace Congress to be held in Cleveland, O., next month.

Four delegates were elected to the national assembly—Jack Morcan, of the International Seamen's Union; Bibb Tolins, Mrs. Etta Durning and Marguerite Stevenson.

Mass demonstrations against the manufacture and transport of munitions were called for in a petition to the national congress, along

with support of the Soviet Union's peace and disarmament policies and of all movements for peace. Another resolution called for an expose of preparations for war and of the policy of American imperialism in preparation for war in the Pacific.

The winning of the support of all armed forces in the fight against fascism and war, and the freedom of the soldiers, sailors and marines to read all literature of their own choosing, was another proposal for action.

“Fascism is an economic, political and social system,” (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

### VENEZUELAN REVOLUTION

MARACAIBO, Venezuela, Dec. 24.—The number of dead, already well over 100, mounts hourly as workers and peasants throughout the country continue to demonstrate and fight against the remnants of the dictatorship bequeathed to the country after the death of Dictator Juan Vicente Gomez.

Fighting is going on in Caracas and Maracaibo, and is especially heavy in oil field towns where the workers are taking the lead.

### MASS PRESSURE FREED SCALERS

Archie Brown Gives  
Statement On  
Acquittal

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—The significance and importance of mass pressure is clearly stressed in the following article by Archie Brown, one of the four members of the Scalers' Union who were acquitted of a shipowner-hatched “murder” frame-up.

“We thought the whole thing a joke when we were arrested until we were rebooked on a murder charge. Then we understood that the shipowners and contractors were determined to send us to the gallows. They were out to break the unions on the front. There were plenty of nights we laid awake worrying how the thing was going to come out.

“When Leo Gallagher and Geo. Andersen from the International Labor Defense came to see us we felt a whole lot better. We knew that from now on the courts and district attorney's office would feel plenty of mass pressure. One thing that worried us at the time was the fact that certain people on the front were circulating the story that the I.L.D. was a “red” organization and that the waterfront workers should have nothing to do with it. They were really agitating against the policy of mass pressure that has freed hundreds of workers who were arrested for fighting for a better living.

#### PRESSES HUSH STORY

The capitalist press entered into a conspiracy of silence against us. The day we were arrested there was a small article. After that nothing for weeks. Personal friends of ours wrote to the letter columns of the News and Chronicle, those papers that boast how liberal they are, but not a one has been published to this date. The president of the Scalers wrote (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

### Nazi Ambassador Not Popular in Midwest States

Dr. Hans Luther, German ambassador to the U. S., experienced a new kind of “good-will” on his recent “good-will” tour through the Midwest. In Madison, Wis., it was necessary for the police to spirit Luther out of town after the picketing of the residence where he was stopping by the students of the University of Wisconsin.

At a press conference in St. Paul, Minn., newspaper men who inquired about German concentration camps and religious tolerance were met with the answer, “There will be no interview!” In Minneapolis the Knights of Columbus publicly deplored receptions in Luther's honor. Seventy organizations labeled his visit “an affront to freedom-loving citizens.”

In New Ulm, Minn., “adverse criticism by Catholics, Protestants and others” compelled city authorities to cancel an official welcome. Two days after Luther's public statement that “there is absolute freedom among all religious denominations in Germany,” the Nazis closed Munich's Catholic libraries.

### Browder and Foster Send Greetings

EMPHASIS ON TASKS AHEAD

Western Worker 4th Anniversary

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—Greeting from Earl Browder and William Z. Foster were received on the advent of the fourth anniversary of the Western Worker.

Hailing the four years of growth of the paper, Browder, secretary of the Communist Party of the U. S. A., said:

In the major tasks confronting our Party and the working class as a whole in the present period,—the struggle against the ever growing menace of fascism, the struggle against imperialist war, for the building of strong, industrial unions in the A. F. of L., and above all, and as a prerequisite for these, the welding of a firm united front first of all between Socialists and Communists and through them of the entire working class, our revolutionary press has a tremendous responsibility, which it dare not fail to fulfill.

The Western Worker has already proved to be an invaluable weapon in the hands of the militant working class in California. In the present period it must multiply its power and influence many-fold. It is the revolutionary duty of every Communist and every worker who supports the fight against war and fascism, of every one who is for the united front, to support the Western Worker in its financial drive,—to secure its existence and to enable it to increase its effectiveness.

Earl Browder.

#### FOSTER STATEMENT

Fighting greetings to the Western Worker on its fourth birthday.

The four years of the existence of the Western Worker were years of huge battles against the effects of the crisis. The Western Worker in all the struggles of the West Coast came out with flying colors, as the only paper which really consistently and energetically defended and fought for every issue before the broad masses of the people. The role the Western Worker played in the great maritime strike—giving leadership and courage to the strikers at the time of the most vicious and blood-thirsty terror—is only one of the many proofs that it has become an indispensable weapon in our day to day work.

We are entering the new year—a year which will bring ever larger sections of the toiling people into action against every attack on their living standards and civil rights. This emphasizes more than ever, the need of strengthening and building the Western Worker into a paper which will reach, influence and organize these workers, and especially the trade unionists, for militant struggle for a Farmer-Labor Party and to defeat the vigilante and fascist terror. The Western Worker can become such an effective mobilizer if every worker, farmer and intellectual will come to the support of the paper.

Forward to a bigger and better Western Worker.

William Z. Foster.

### Labor Council Backs League Against Fascism

Mr. Bert Leech, Pacific Coast organizer for the American League Against War and Fascism, spoke at the labor temple on Friday, Dec. 20.

Three delegates to the Central Labor Council and representatives of several other organizations attended and pledged their support to the league.

Six people were elected on a committee of action to carry on educational work and to prepare for a mass meeting on Thursday, January 23.

Dr. Harry F. Ward, national chairman for the league will be the main speaker on that occasion.

## WORKERS FORCE CITY COUNCIL JAIL HEARING

LINCOLN HEIGHTS JAIL  
CALLED WORST IN  
THE COUNTRY

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Members of the Police and Fire Committee of the City Council were pinned to the wall here yesterday by a militant committee of 75 workers demanding correction of present discrimination against political prisoners in Lincoln Heights jail.

Affidavits definitely establishing the horrible conditions in the jail were submitted by Sylvia Wexler of the International Labor Defense, and verified by other witnesses before the committee.

Clinton J. Taft, of the American Civil Liberties Union, cited the Wickersham Report to prove that jails in Los Angeles are worse than in any other big city in the country. Adeline Drew, of the Allied Progressives, demanded equality of treatment for all prisoners.

An attempt by Councilman Gaye to trap Grover Johnson, I.L.D. attorney, failed when Johnson refused to answer “yes” to Gaye's question: “do you know these statements to be true?” Johnson replied that he knew them to be true to the best of his knowledge.

“The three political prisoners—Harold Hendricks, James McShann, John Sanders—have been refused money on the ground that it is “radical money,” said Johnson. “Also they have been denied their application to work with other prisoners in Elysian Park. Their jailors told them they would serve every day of their sentence in either Cell Block 5 or “Cell Block 6.”

J. G. Honeycombe described his reception by police in Lincoln Heights jail, along with other workers arrested by police after they had been brutally beaten by police and other thugs in the Hearst Examiner “riot” last September.

“An officer lined us up,” said Honeycombe. “Then he told other cops there: ‘Look these sons-of— over and get them before they get you.’”

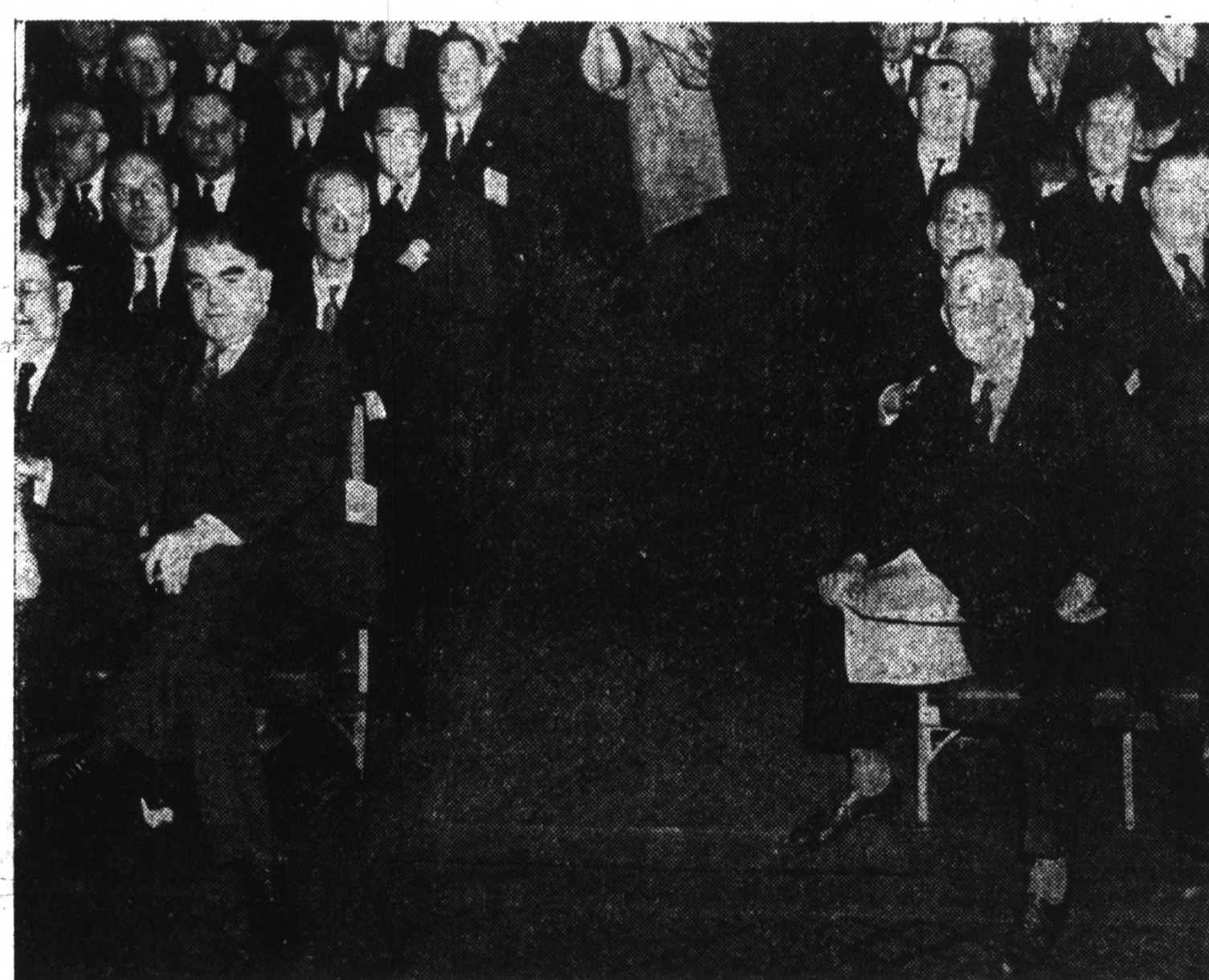
Honeycombe first said he hesitated to repeat this language without permission of the councilmen and the committee. Such permission was given.

One of the affidavits submitted was by Joseph Toth, victim of the June, 1934, charity “riot” frame-up, along with the other three workers. Toth was recently released after serving out his sentence.

The councilmen first claimed they had no power to act, but then accepted the affidavits “for investigation.” Hearing before the committee was won by a militant committee before the City Council last Tuesday.

### Roosevelt Films

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—(FP)—A huge barrage of Democratic Party propaganda will soon emerge from the film studios of California to aid Franklin D. Roosevelt's reelection campaign. The Democratic National Committee is raising \$500,000 to produce two feature pictures and 34 short subjects with a frankly propaganda content.



Bitter opponents in the American Federation of Labor industrial unionism dispute, John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America (left) and Pres. William Green of the American Federation of Labor (right) are seen here in attendance at the industrial “cooperation” conference called by Maj. Berry. Big businessmen heckled and broke up the meeting. Green is the advocate of craft unionism (good for the employer). Lewis is leading the fight for industrial unionism—which would vastly strengthen organized labor and is very undesirable to the employer. It is predicted that Green's stubborn opposition to the progressive demand for industrial unionism will ultimately result in his doom as an alleged “leader of labor.”

## STATE KILLING OFF CATTLE TO DEplete FOOD, MEAT SUPPLY.

### Nestor Dairyman Brings Suit Against Government for Sabotage

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 24.—Advancing the contention of dairy farmers throughout the state, that the tubercular control of cattle by state and federal officials is being used to deplete the food and meat supply of the U. S. as an economic policy of the New Deal, a Nestor dairyman, H. C. George has brought suit against state and federal veterinarians to restrain them from killing his cows.

George charges a conspiracy in effect between federal, state and county veterinarians to destroy farmers' cattle. He asks \$7870 punitive and actual damages for the alleged conspiracy and a permanent injunction prohibiting the officials from killing more of his cows. Out of 21 condemned by the veterinarians, two were killed. George bases his claims for damages on the loss of the two cows and the contention that the reputation of his herd has been hurt. He also asks that the court appoint "unbiased" veterinarians to inspect his herd.

According to the rancher's complaint: "The Federal Department of Agriculture has no power to cause owners of cattle to kill and destroy them as past of economic policy and plan." He also claims that mere reaction of his herd to injections is not sufficient to classify his cattle tubercular, but actual proof that they are tubercular must be shown before the state has the right to destroy livestock.

George's complaint says, the plan of the Federal Dept. of Agriculture to destroy the cattle is being carried on under the guise and pretense of cooperating with and assisting the California Dept. of Agriculture in the control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis, an d that the Federal Dept. has employed and paid veterinarians to make a state-wide tuberculin test of the cattle in the state. He says that animals are branded "reactors" to the tests and condemned regardless of whether they reacted to the test or not.

### LOS ANGELES CONGRESS TO OPPOSE WAR

(Continued from Page 1)  
litical and social disease," said Paul Richie, Epic Assemblyman of San Diego, "and it can be cured only by abolition of capitalism. The only man with a political theory you can trust is the Marxian radical. A leader must understand Marxian principles but does not necessarily have to be a member of the Communist Party."

"The two main difficulties to overcome," said Bert Leech, organizer of the American League Against War and Fascism, "are inertia and fear of militant action."

"Fascism is here!" exclaimed Carey McWilliams, noted attorney-writer. "People do not realize the immediate danger of fascism because they associate it with open dictatorship."

Resolutions adopted included protest against construction of armories, non-participation in Nazi-German Olympics; protest against abrogation of civil liberties, requesting Cleveland Congress to form a North American alliance of the forces against war and fascism, stopping of arms shipments to the Cuban-Wall Street government, endorsement of protest letters against the Tidings-McCormack military disaffection bill and the Cramer sedition bill in Congress, endorsement of the third National Congress of the American League.

Other speakers included Eugene J. Reed, founder of the Utopian Society; Mr. Gonzales, of the League Against War and Fascism of Mexico; and Dr. Fabian Garcia, of the Cuban Revolutionary Party (Autenticos).

Chairman A. C. Rogers, of the San Diego Federated Trades and Labor Council, closed the session with the admonition "not to be content merely to meet in a body and pass resolutions but to go out and spread these ideas among our friends and organizations."

Organizations represented included the International Seamen's Union; Chippers and Scalers' Union; International Longshoremen's Association, local 38-91, of San Pedro; Studio Workers Unpholsters' Guild; Journeymen Tailors, Plasterers and Cement Workers' Union; Painters Union 1348; Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; National Youth Administration Union of Los Angeles Junior College; Federated Trades and Labor Council of San Diego, Public Works and Unemployed Union.

Official observers were present from the Lathers' Union, Musicians' Union and the Screen Writers' Guild.

### WARD DANGER GROWING IN ALL NATIONS

(Continued from Page 1)  
ual severing of the five Chinese provinces in the North.

#### STUDENTS PROTEST

Sections of the railway line were torn up in a drastic attempt to heck attack by Chinese Shanghai students protesting the movement for North China separation. The students had stolen a railway train to carry to Nanking their protests.

Anti-Japanese demonstrations and the murder of Tan Yu-yen, vice minister of Chinese railways, precipitated martial rule in Nanking and Shanghai.

#### ETHIOPIANS WIN

In Ethiopia, the heaviest fighting of the war, with unconfirmed reports estimating 5000 dead on both sides gave Italian and Ethiopian forces ghastly Christmas tasks in the Northern front.

The Italian line appeared to be holding before widespread Ethiopian attacks which caused it to tumble in spots.

The Ethiopians have been counter-attacking along a 60-mile front. Main attacks were made at three points: South of Aksum, West of Makale, and Northwest of Makale.

Heavy losses in fighting North of Takkaza have been described in official Italian Communiqués for the past few days.

On the Southern Somali front, Ras Desta Dintu, Emperor Haile Selassie's son-in-law was reported as preparing an attack on Italian forces near Dolo.

#### SPIES SHOT

Three Eritrean spies, charged by Italian police with giving information to the Ethiopian government concerning the location of troops in Italian colonies were sentenced today to be shot in the back.

Nine other were given sentences ranging from one to sixteen years in prison.

It was learned that general staffs of the Army and Navy of France and Great Britain have been conferring secretly on cooperation in a possible European emergency.

The government has moved to bring the British army up to the top pitch of modern efficiency with an order for reorganization more extensive than any in the army's history.

#### SECRET PARLEYS

It is known that for the time being no more peace proposals to Italy and Mussolini are being contemplated. Secret pacts may now do the dirty work which the open robber deal of Hoare and Laval failed to accomplish.

Meanwhile Laval was understood to be angered with Mussolini's delay in accepting the proposal, this delay being the reason why British mass opinion had time to mobilize and repudiate it.

In the United States, attempts were being made by the National Peace Conference to push through a new neutrality act which would embargo shipments of oil, cotton, scrap iron, and other basic essentials not governed by the present act.

Reports also indicated that the war has driven a greater sum of gold into the United States seeking security than any previous recent gold movement, according to Federal Reserve Bulletins.

A small tempest was brewing in official teapots as secret State papers of the American and British governments revealed how the United States was drawn into the world war of 1914 by the Wilson administration in order to foster the manufacture and sale of war munitions to allies.

PORT SAID, Egypt.—Several British transports carrying troops have arrived here.

Instead of landing the troops as expected, they departed hastily for an unknown destination, presumed to be the Libyan frontier district.

It was learned that Italian subject to mobilization have been ordered ready to leave for Tripoli.

SHANGHAI—Students seeking to go to Nanking to protest to the government against Japanese interference lay on the railway tracks at Hangchow for six hours

### Revolt in the Brazilian Army ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Brazilian government troops charging the barracks occupied by regiments which refused to turn their guns against the people in the recent premature revolt. Huge sections of the Brazilian army threw their strength with the revolting workers rather than shoot down their own people in the interests of the wealthy plantation owners. The revolt was drowned in blood in one of the most terrible massacres of South American history.

### HITLER AGENTS ROUTED IN RAID ON WORKER CLUB

#### NAZIS RECEIVE TERRIFIC BEATING FOR PAINS

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—"Heil" Hitler's "western front" campaign was not only completely routed, but suffered considerable humiliation, when twenty Nazi Storm Troopers who invaded the German Workers' Club in Yorkville armed with blackjacks and in full regalia were thrown bodily from a full flight of stairs by indignant German-American workers.

Driven to the street, the Storm Troopers, whom by now had been reduced to gentle zephyrs, were attacked by passers-by, who gave violent expression to their resentment of the Nazi attempts to introduce Hitler terrorism in New York and the public flaunting of the piratical swastika.

The would-be raiders appeared at the hall just as the members of the club had gathered for a regular Saturday night assembly, and began shouting "Heil Hitler." Quicker than you could say "heil Hitler," the embryo Nazis were administered a terrific beating by the workers. Police arriving on the scene, after everything was over, made no arrest and promised to "look into the raid." A Nazi cap, with attached swastika, which was left behind by one of the "raiders" in his sudden exit, was turned over to the police.

### ARCHIE BROWN STATEMENT ON SCALERS TRIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

a letter exposing the frame-up and the Chronicle called him up and wanted "proof." Of course this letter also was not published. The only papers carrying the scalers' case was the Voice of the Federation, the Western Worker, and the Voice of Youth.

The I.L.D. and the Scalers' Union broke thru the conspiracy of silence by issuing thousands of leaflets and information bulletins. Protests came piling in by the hundreds of every kind of workers' organizations up and down the Pacific Coast. The day the trial opened, the judge admitted that he had received these protests demanding our release, but since the grand jury had indicted us he could do nothing about it.

#### NO MOONEY CASE

"As the trial proceeded the protests increased, as the protests increased, the prosecution softened up. What really settled the proposition was that grand showing of solidarity—the half-hour protest strike of 20,000 maritime workers in San Francisco. From that time on—the prosecution was so impressed by the exposure of the frame-up that they did not want a conviction. The prosecuting attorney stated at the trial, "this won't be another Mooney-Billings case."

"We know we were freed by the militant defense of the I.L.D. attorneys and the marvelous way the workers rallied to help free us."

halting the Shanghai train, a Hangchow dispatch reported.

Three hundred students swarmed through the north station demanding transportation to Nanking.

### Army Frames Negro Worker Sentenced to 90 Days in Jail

CORONA, Calif., Dec. 24.—Framed on charges of "disturbing the peace" by the flagrantly untrue testimony of Army officers in command at the La Cienega CCC camp, Alfonso Townsend, young Negro worker, was convicted here this week and sentenced to 90 days in jail.

An atmosphere of terror prevailed here during the trial, in which young Townsend was defended by Grover Johnson of the International Labor Defense. Vigilantes and American Legionnaires were in attendance throughout the trial, and made a point of displaying guns they carried on their hips.

Townsend was actually convicted of protesting against intolerable conditions in the CCC camp, which is a segregated "Jim-Crow" camp.

Immediate appeal will be made on this frame-up conviction by the I.L.D. Workers are urged to send protests immediately to the justice of the peace here in Corona, and to the superior court of Riverside County.

Previously in Elsinore, trial of these charges ended in a hung jury, 6 to 6, but when an atmosphere of terror and repression developed in menacing proportions, Johnson won a change of venue to the Corona court. However, the vigilantes followed the trial here to gain this frame-up conviction.

### Roses and Wine and Song to Come

There is a rose that never grew,  
A rare, rare rose of a red, red hue,  
A hue so red, a scent so rare,  
Was never dream flower half so fair.

There is a wine was never known,  
The juice of a grape that's not yet grown:  
Its scarlet cup whoever drains,  
Will feel the sun dance thru' his veins,  
Will feel the sun dance thru' his veins.

There is a song was never sung,  
A tune that's tripped from no man's tongue:  
The deaf shall hear, the dumb shall sing,  
And the lame shall dance to its carolling.

The rose; the wine, the song shall come  
At the rat-tat-tat of a rebel drum:  
The old in flame, the new in flower,  
When the working class takes over power.

J. S. WALLACE

### WESTINGHOUSE COMPANY UNION IS TOTTERING

#### BONA-FIDE UNION MEN ELECTED TO EX-BOARD

EAST PITTSBURGH, Dec. 24.—The parents of the company-hatched and nurtured Westinghouse Employee Plan of Representation were practically repudiated by their offspring, when the workers elected five bona-fide union men on the executive committee of the company union. The five new members of the committee are all members of Local 1010 of the Electrical and Radio Workers' Union. Their placement gives the bona-fide union 50 per cent of the votes on that body, and gives strong witness of the rapid growth of sentiment for self-organization among the 10,000 workers of the Westinghouse plant.

The election of the executive, just finished, involved only one real issue—for or against the bona-fide union. Not one union candidate was defeated. This is the first bona-fide union to gain a foothold in the plant since 1916, and offers a convincing example of the correct utilization of the company union, as a springboard to real unionization.

### WPA Raise Asked

TOLEDO.—(FP)—Declaring that present wages are inadequate, the Workers' Alliance of Lucas county, O., has demanded that WPA wages be raised at least 10 per cent.

### Nazis Murder 5 Communists In New Terror

#### "ASSASSIN PLOT" FRAMED BY POLICE TO JUSTIFY KILLINGS

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Simultaneously with the rising food shortage throughout Nazi Germany, five members of the German Communist Party were shot down and murdered by Nazi executioners, and one hundred were arrested in Traunstein, Bavaria, on trumped-up charges of "attempted assassination of Adolph Hitler." L'Humanite, central organ of the Communist Party of France, stated today.

L'Humanite stated that these charges were deliberately manufactured by the Nazi secret police, for the purpose of justifying the beheading of Rudolph Claus, treasurer of the International Labor Defense of Germany.

Behind the new murders is the basis for more death sentences, particularly in the trial of 25 workers, who are facing the Nazi tribunal on the charges of attacking a group of fascists in a beer hall, in 1933.

The court is demanding the beheading of seven prisoners and long term imprisonment for the others. The world-wide protests against the atrocities have given the Nazi considerable worry and their anxiety to hasten the murder of the Communist prisoners, was the motive for the police-hatched "assassination plot."

In the approved and frequent style of Mussolini, the "plot" netted the death of the five Communists and the arrest of scores of others.

### HEARST 'EXPOSE' BOOMS SALE OF WHY COMMUNISM

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Dirty Willie Hearst's "expose" of Communist activities and his citation of M. J. Olgin's five-cent pamphlet, Why Communism?, boomeranged on the "fuhrer" here last Sunday night.

At the Cultural Center Forum, nearly 30 copies of Olgin's pamphlet—all that were in stock at the time—were completely sold out and the workers present demanded more. One worker came in the next day to the Cultural Center Book Shop and bought three more copies.

Workers are urged to get copies of this excellent pamphlet from the Workers' Book stores for their friends, relatives, neighbors, and fellow workers, so that they may read the entire text.

### WRITERS BACK FIGHT AGAINST CALIF. C.S. LAW

(Continued from Page 1)

in the fight against Fascism. "It is good news that 190 organizations comprising 226,000 progressive Californians, have decided to get together and wipe out the nefarious and notorious Criminal Syndicalism Act of your state—an act which has probably done more to give California a bad name throughout the world than any other event, except the Mooney case. Your success for which I pray—will restore California to the condition of liberalism which a state so richly endowed has less excuse to relinquish than many another."

Hundreds of leaders in every field have condemned the C. S. Act, including Professor John Dewey, Department of Philosophy Columbia University, who stated in a recent letter to the C. S. Repeal Conference: "I need hardly say that I am with you most heartily and wish you all success in the valuable work that your organization is carrying on."

#### MEETING WEDNESDAY

The Conference Executive Committee is preparing for a mass meeting to be held in San Francisco, Wednesday, Jan. 29, at a hall yet to be selected. This meeting will lead up to a state-wide conference at Sacramento in March when the Criminal Syndicalism Act victims will open their fight for freedom before the Sacramento District Court of Appeals. The conference is demanding that the prisoners be released on bail immediately in order to prepare for the March hearings and requests all supporters to flood Governor Merriam and the Sacramento District Court of Appeals with demands that they be freed pending the appeal hearings.

### A Working-man Mayor ★ ★ ★



From 9 a. m. to 3 p. m., Ernest C. Estes (above) will continue to hold his job as a railroad gate tender in Auburn, Maine. But at 3 o'clock each day he's going to the City Hall to look after civic affairs. He was elected as the "working man's candidate" to the mayor's office in recent voting.

### WPA SEAMSTRESSES FACE INEFFICIENCY, PETTY GRAFT

By a WPA Seamstress.

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 24.—There are 120 seamstresses in the morning shift, and 115 in the afternoon shift, on our WPA sewing project on Madison ave. The hours for the morning shift are from 7 o'clock a. m. to noon, six days a week. The hours for the afternoon shift are from noon to 6 o'clock p. m. I am on the morning shift, but I do not care because I do not live very far from the project, but some of the seamstresses live on the other side of town, in the Logan Heights section and they have to get up at 5 a. m. to be able to get to work on time, and have to pay \$1 a week for a car-pass.

Many of us are operators, but we cannot use the electric machines which are in the building because the electric power is not turned on. The lights have not been connected either, and there is no heat. I asked the supervisor why and she told me the WPA was looking around for a bigger building where they can hold all the women who apply for WPA work. So I suppose they won't turn on the lights and power until they find one.

I am not able to stand being shut up in a big room where the only thing we breathe is the carbon exhaled by 120 women, so I usually go outside and sit in the mechanics car to sew, but I don't know what I will do if it ever rains, because there is no top.

Since we have no electricity to operate the machines, we all do hand work. Most of us mend our own rags and clothes. Some are knitting sweaters. We also are piecing quilts.

### WPA Forced to Pay Union Wages

TEN PER CENT OF WPA CONSTRUCTION MEN WIN RAISE

(Los Angeles Labor Council)  
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—The prevailing trade union wage scale has been won for 10 per cent of skilled, semi-skilled mechanics and building construction workers on WPA construction work, it was announced at the regular Central Labor Council meeting here last Wednesday.

Although this partial success leaves 90 per cent of the workers out in the cold at the old "security" wage of \$55 a month for 120 hours work, the delegates applauded the announcement.

#### CLOSED SHOP WON

Enthusiasm also greeted signing of a closed shop agreement for workers of five crafts employed in the film studios. This climaxes a long fight of these workers, in the fourth largest industry in the U. S. and is the first time in the history of the film industry that a closed shop agreement has been signed.

The delegate from meat cutters local 421 stated that his local had received a letter from the Central Labor Council, advising it to elect a new delegate. Stating that he had just learned this from the delegate replacing him, he asked information on why this letter was sent.

President Harry Sherman, "machine-man," replied he knew nothing about it but could not speak for the other delegates and would know nothing of the matter until receipt of an official letter from the meat cutters' local.

#### POLITICS RAPPED

Last week, in the debate on the revocation of the charter of the Fish Cannery Workers' Union of San Pedro, this protested delegate stated: "A person's political beliefs do not disbar him from a union or from doing good union work."

This stand against the machine politics of J. W. Buzzell, council secretary, and President Sherman obviously occasioned the letter to the meat cutters' local.

The rapid organization of the Colorado miners was told in a short speech by Brother Groves, secretary of the Colorado State Federation of Labor.

Brother Epps, of the Canadian House of Commons, also spoke, expressing good wishes for the future of organized labor.

"We cannot solve twentieth century problems with nineteenth century ideas," he said.

### OLSON MAKES OWN ROOSEVELT UNITED FRONT

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 25—

State Senator Gilbert L. Olson has tied himself to the hand-wagon of President Roosevelt and attached himself—with mild objections—to the coattails of gaudy Senator W. G. McAdoo.

The Epic leader joined a United front of Democrats, including McAdoo, for the Jackson dinner, Jan. 8, in the ritzy Ambassador Hotel, to mark the opening of the 1936 "elect Roosevelt" campaign.

Mild rebuke was leveled against McAdoo by Olson for the former's stand against a "production for use" plank in the national Democratic platform.

"It is inconceivable," said Olson, "that a delegation which turns its back on the principles of the Democratic state platform would receive the support of the party. It is reasonable to expect that a delegation which pledges its support to these principles and to work for their adoption will receive the support of the party."

Olson expressed "belief" that President Roosevelt would accept and carry out a national platform with a "production for use" plank.

### PRESSURE PUT ON L.A. WPA

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Added pressure for the demands of organized labor that the Los Angeles WPA pay prevailing trade union wages, was gained today when State Attorney General U. S. Webb ruled that the state prevailing wage law applies on WPA projects.

The ruling was contained in a letter to Epic Assemblyman Ben Rosenthal who obtained the ruling for A. Marvin Hart, official of the Carpenters' District Council, and other trade unionists.

Labor leaders are reported to be considering legal action against the WPA "security" wage.

secretary of the Colorado State Federation of Labor.

Brother Epps, of the Canadian House of Commons, also spoke, expressing good wishes for the future of organized labor.

"We cannot solve twentieth century problems with nineteenth century ideas," he said.

# FOUR YEARS OF VITAL HISTORY HAVE BEEN TOLD

Perspectives for the Coming Year

IN THE WORKERS' PRESS

A FEW HEADLINES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

## The United Front Against Fascism

The new year will require a strong, fighting Communist Party, if we are to fulfill the great tasks before us. The Central Committee of the Party is launching a national recruiting drive to reach 40,000 members by March 1, and to build a more powerful, effective workers' press. We appeal to all militant workers and farmers, to all people against fascism and war, to help build the Party and the Western Worker. **JOIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY! SUPPORT THE FINANCIAL DRIVE OF THE WESTERN WORKER! HELP BUILD A MASS**

"'Red Salute' is a tissue of lies and distortions that entirely misrepresents the real aims of the anti-war movement," the leaflet stated.

This demonstration is another step toward the United Front of Socialists and Communists in Southern California.

Seventeen students were arrested at the University of California for distributing anti-war leaflets. Germany defied the Versailles treaty and commenced restoring German armed forces to pre-war strength.

ality and the clubbing  
of unemployed workers  
demonstrations.

Marine Workers Ind. Union

and make a big success  
of the campaign before  
November 15.

will be given courses in shooting before they enter the army, which is expected shortly to number again

Workers Order, the Finnish  
Gent. Page 2

BERLIN, Germany.—Latest war plan of Hitler provides for the training of all German youngsters in the Hitler youth organization in marksmanship. Approximately 2,500,000 boys of pre-military age will be given courses in shooting before they enter the army, which is expected shortly to number ap

# The Role of the Press in Mexico

Translation From El Machete, Organ of The Communist Party of Mexico

During the past few weeks the bourgeois press of Mexico has developed a most intense and criminal campaign against the revolutionary and anti-imperialist movement, against the Communist Party and against various revolutionary intellectuals and the Cardenas Government.

During the campaign the capitalist press has used the most vicious lies, intending to create great confusion among the masses, even going so far as to assert that Lombardo Toledano, teacher and a member of the Teachers' Association which in turn is an affiliate of the Mexican Workers' Federation, had called for the "establishment of a Soviet regime on the First of May, 1936."

Lombardo Toledano made the following declaration to the Mexican press, which here is translated from El Machete, organ of the Communist Party of Mexico, issue of Nov. 30, 1935.

## Reply in Workers' Press

"The future made by certain papers in this capital (Mexico City, D.F.) since my return from the U.S.S.R., taking for pretext my participation in two workers' meetings held at the Theater Hidalgo to make known the conditions under which the people live under the Soviets, has grown to such proportions that I feel myself obliged to beg that you publish the following truths and enlightenment."

"The dailies to which I refer, in particular the Excelsior and La Prensa in referring to my talks, have proceeded in the following manner: They change my ideas with utter disregard, putting words in my mouth which I never used, to convince their readers that they are telling the truth. They then complete the job by putting their own interpretations upon their stories."

"They have 'branded' me as a Communist, as a Mexican delegate to Moscow, as a man bought by Russian gold, as an author of fantastic schemes to create an autonomous Indian republic, as propagandist for a new religion that has Lenin for its God, and as an organizer and leader of workers who finally announces the establishment of a Mexican Soviet Republic on the First of May, 1936."

## Class Interests

"This conduct, in my opinion, obeys not only the wish to defend the interests of the most conservative social classes in the Republic—a task for which these dailies live—but reveals also a clear-cut plan to create within those church elements now in armed rebellion in different parts of the country, a state of constant unrest. With the assistance of the Catholic Church in the United States and the big capitalist financiers which have capital invested here, the North American government then would find cause for intervention in our national affairs, possible suppression of the present administration and substitution of a regime of outright oppression by Yankee Imperialism."

"The maneuver is plain. If General Cardenas does not modify his position as defender of the workers, they will make him appear an 'underground' Communist. Or if he does not join with the clerics and the large landed interests, deserting his revolutionary position they will foment a rebellion against him. To gain their desired position these dailies have set out to convince President Cardenas that Communism is an immediate menace, that Lombardo Toledano is a despicable agent of the Soviet Government and that there already is woven a conspiracy that has for its object the overthrow of the govt., destruction of public wealth and democratic rights established by the constitution and to implant in Mexico a rule of terror and tyranny and barbarism."

## Strategic Move

"The maneuver consists in an attempt to separate General Cardenas from the working class so that the reaction will have more chance of success. But the impudent dailies, tied to the dead past of Mexico, have erred once more."

"I am no agent of Moscow and I do not pretend to organize workers nor to establish a Soviet Government in our country within the coming year. Nor does there exist any single group of workers which tries to defeat General Cardenas. On the contrary, before the threats of the conservative faction, and the foreign elements which always wished to intervene in our affairs, all sincere workers

will unite with General Lazaro Cardenas to strengthen his revolutionary acts and intend by all possible means to impede the breaking of the unity of the working class."

## Hails Soviet Union

"My propaganda regarding the success attained by the workers in the Soviet Union, my sincere enthusiasm for the new humanity springing up there does not signify that I believe the hour to initiate the Dictatorship of the Proletariat has arrived in our country. I have always said, and repeat again, that a satellite country, dependent upon a great economic empire like ours, cannot at any whim, modify historical laws."

When the objective conditions of nationalism and international capitalism are advantageous for a change of regime, a condition which has not yet come about, the transformation must be completed, despite all obstacles. Our present program—speaking for those who think as I do—is reduced to defense against the conservative factions of our country and to work tirelessly for the improvement of economic and moral conditions of the Mexican people, a people so poor, so ignorant and so divided by the imperialists who keep us in a state almost prehistoric."

Your Friend and Servant,  
Vicente Lombardo Toledano.

# Liberals Join in Protests Against Murder of Claus

THOMAS, SINCLAIR, AND OTHERS SIGN CABLE SENT TO HITLER

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Murder of Rudolf Claus, heroic anti-fascist and organizer of the International Labor Defense in Germany, by Nazis butchers, has aroused a world-wide wave of protest. This crime is regarded as forerunner of a similar fate for Ernst Thaelmann, leader of the German working class, unless mass protests force the Hitler regime to desist.

A cable in protest to Adolf Hitler was dispatched by the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. Signing the message were Lincoln Steffens, Norman Thomas, Upton Sinclair, Arthur Garfield Hayes, Waldo Frank, Sherwood Anderson, John Haynes Holmes, Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Julius Hochman, and others.

Deutsche Zentral Zeitung, German paper published in Moscow, said of the execution of Claus on a charge of high treason:

"The cowardly worshippers of the 'heroic world outlook' did not shrink from murdering a ninety per cent disabled war veteran solely on account of his revolutionary ideas."

Albert Kayser, another victim of German Fascists, has been sentenced to life imprisonment, according to dispatches from Berlin.

## Swiss Fascists

BERNE, Switzerland.—The recent election of the Federal Council has paved the way for the rapid and progressive growth of fascism in Switzerland. The wages of civil servants and Federal railway employees are to be cut again to six francs weekly per person. Pensions are to be cut and further wage slashes are threatened by the Industrial and Commercial Association to raise an additional 40 million francs. In private industry, the government wage-cut policy is being copied. The already meagre grant to the unemployment insurance fund is also to be reduced.

Economic retrenchment measures are accompanied by attempts to restrict democratic rights, the first move being to obstruct the functioning of plebiscites and ultimately to establish dictatorial power. Trade union activities are also being hampered.

Concerning the League of Nations Sanctions, the Council openly supports Mussolini. Export and import traffic is fully maintained. No measures are being taken to prevent war supplies from Hitler Germany from finding their way to Italy via "free" Getthard, Switzerland further cooperates with fascist Italy in persecuting and deporting Italian anti-fascists.

# The Famous Browder--Thomas Debate

The Message of the Socialist

NORMAN THOMAS

"... Those of you who have followed the enormously important proceedings of the last Communist International will probably remember the candor with which the change to a new line was stated. Here, in the proceedings I find—and I shall not take time to read it—a frank statement that does credit to any party acknowledging certain mistakes, mistakes in Germany, mistakes in other countries. We rejoice that that statement has been made, but we want to know now just what the new line is. Here we are confused. We are confused by the nature and magnitude of the change, the far point in the arc to which the pendulum has swung. Much of the change, the change in favor of cooperation, in favor of fair discussion of difficulties—is all to the good. It may mean the difference between life and death for some of us in this hall. Other changes are less praiseworthy."

"The time allotted me is nearly up and I have not by any means said all the things I should like to say, nor for that matter quoted all I might want to quote, but it would not be fair to sit down unless I spoke specifically on the question that so concerns so many of us, namely the question of the united front. Any man who is not a fool wants the maximum of joint action, not only for Socialists and Communists, but for everyone. We want the maximum of joint action, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Republicans, Democrats, Socialists, Communists, to see to it that we bring home to the German people the lesson we ought to bring home, by stopping the Olympic Games in Berlin. That is a united front we can agree on."

"We have had a fairly successful united front lately in the matter of Angelo Herndon, condemned to the living hell of a chain gang in Georgia for no offense except for daring to organize the unemployed. Who of us is free while he faces that fate?"

"If we cannot get a new committee under a new arrangement for the defense of the Scottsboro boys, I don't think it will be the Socialists who will block it. I am afraid that the trouble will lie elsewhere, and it won't lie in the Communist Party either."

"These are practical things. It may some time be practical here to negotiate a general united front. It has been practical in France. It has been made practical in France because there Socialists and Communists combined are powerful enough almost by themselves to stop fascism. It has been practical in France because Stalin needed such a front if he were going to risk a military alliance of any sort with capitalist France."

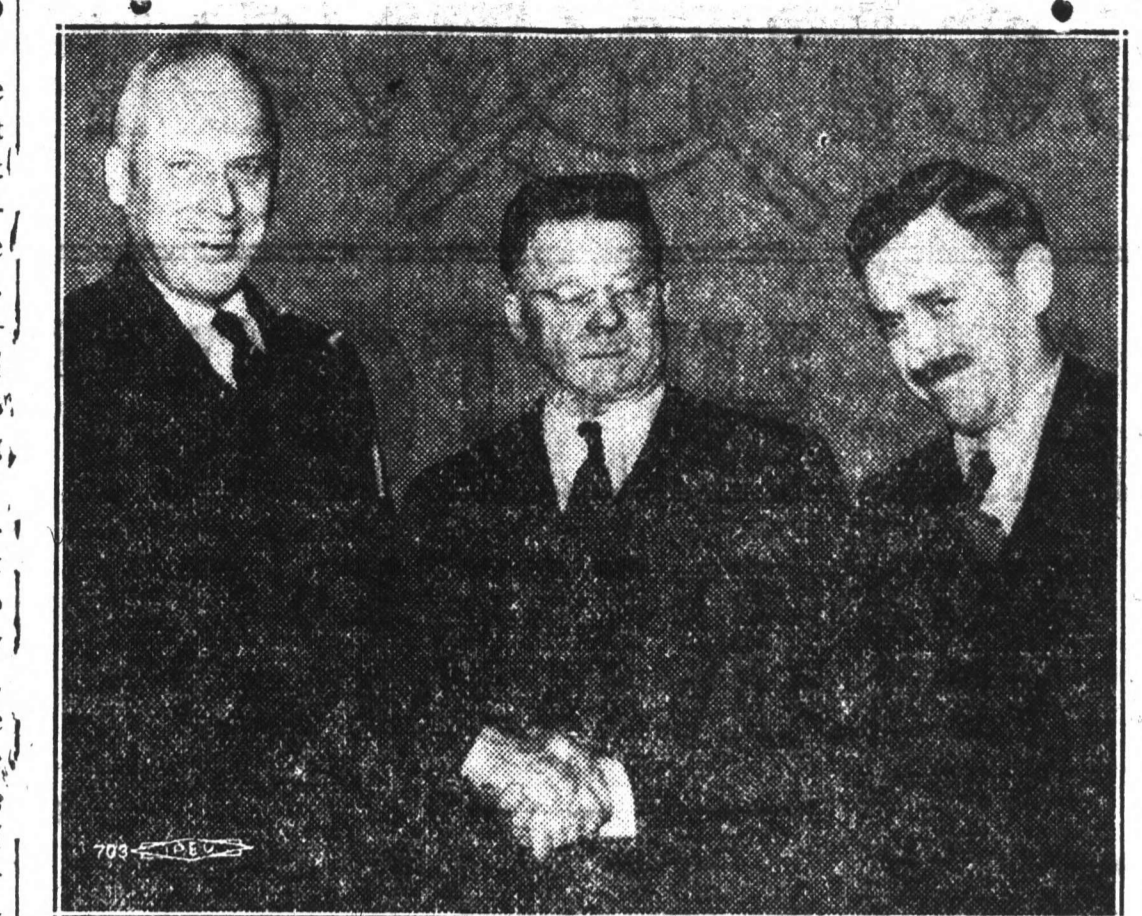
"I would like more freedom of fair minded criticism in the people's front, and it troubles me a little to see our Communist friends make more love to Herriot than to Leon Blum. They are jumping a little far to the right when they prefer progressives to Socialists."

"Our situation is different. Our task is to win the workers. Can we do it better if we spend our time trying to negotiate a hypothetical united front agreement? Should we not see first just what kind of a united front is wanted by our Communist friends, whether it is the version of November, 1935, or the version of November, 1933. And there is a large difference between them. We are warranted in asking that those of you who are realists, who want not a formal thing, who want not some victory to talk about, but who want real achievement in America, will prove good faith by specific agreements on specific and vital issues. There are differences between us, differences in our estimate of some values, differences in the road that we would take. There are important differences now upon the terms on which a Labor Party ought to be built and how far we can go in a general inclusiveness."

There are differences, and important differences for us to thresh out by discussion and experience carried on in good faith. There are important things for us to learn, which as yet neither of us, Communists or Socialists, have learned, namely, the way to persuade men who now think they are of the middle class, that their hope is the hope of a reward as workers; to teach the farmers of America that the way out, the way of abundance is the way of Socialism."

I don't think we will do it best

EXCERPTS FROM THE DEBATE AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN IN NEW YORK CITY



The handclasp between Earl Browder, Communist and Norman Thomas, Socialist, on the occasion of the debate in Madison Square Garden, New York, on November 27th expressed more than solidarity between two leaders. It symbolized the rapidly growing unity of the major divisions of class conscious America. The forces of fascism in the United States will face a working class seasoned by the experiences of Germany and Italy. They will not be dealing with a great power divided among itself. They will face, as they are facing in France, a solid united front—a unified working class prepared to defend its interests and fight its battles with full strength.

# Norman Thomas Sponsors Dinner to Honor Anniversary of Mother Bloor

## UNITED FRONT SOLIDARITY

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The Mother Ella Reeve Bloor Anniversary Committee has planned a dinner which will be given in her home, January 24th in New York City.

The chairman of the sponsoring committee, Agnes Burns Weick, has received the following letter from Norman Thomas, whom the committee has invited to speak:

"Of course you can count on me as a sponsor to a dinner for Mother Bloor. Unfortunately, I shall be speaking in the West on January 24th or I should be present."

by our Communist friends, whether it is the version of November, 1935, or the version of November, 1933. And there is a large difference between them. We are warranted in asking that those of you who are realists, who want not a formal thing, who want not some victory to talk about, but who want real achievement in America, will prove good faith by specific agreements on specific and vital issues. There are differences between us, differences in our estimate of some values, differences in the road that we would take. There are important differences now upon the terms on which a Labor Party ought to be built and how far we can go in a general inclusiveness."

There are differences, and important differences for us to thresh out by discussion and experience carried on in good faith. There are important things for us to learn, which as yet neither of us, Communists or Socialists, have learned, namely, the way to persuade men who now think they are of the middle class, that their hope is the hope of a reward as workers; to teach the farmers of America that the way out, the way of abundance is the way of Socialism."

I don't think we will do it best

The Message of the Communist

EARL BROWDER

"... The Seventh World Congress brought forward new tactics and methods of work to meet the changed world situation; it maintained unchanged the principles of the program of Communism."

"The great mass of American workers are not convinced as yet of the necessity of Socialism about which sincere Socialists and Communists do agree. Especially do the masses tend to remain skeptical about Socialism when they see its adherents sharply divided into Socialist and Communist Parties, unable even to act together for the things they agree on, in the unions, in the daily burning immediate needs of life. They see in New York, for example, where the movement is strongest, the Communist Party advancing only slowly in elections, while the Socialist Party even falls back to about the level of the Communist Party this year, and the total vote of the two parties is even declining. Of course, we are very glad that the Communist vote is rising. This requires all Socialists to think more seriously about the united front. Nevertheless, we must say that the decline of the total vote of the two working class parties is alarming."

Is it not clear that a united front would multiply the attractive power of the Socialist and Communist Parties over the large masses? And is it not clear that both parties and the cause of Socialism would gain immeasurably among the working classes by a clear decision to establish a united front of the two parties?"

Yes, we differ on the question of bourgeois democracy or proletarian dictatorship as the road to Socialism. Yet it is clear that for the American working class to face the question of power as an immediate issue in any form, there must be a radical strengthening of the organized power of the working class, of the working class on the economic fields. On this I believe we agree. Why don't we join hands to help the movement for the organization of the unorganized into industrial unions, a movement which is rising today as never before?"

It will also be admitted that to hasten the coming of Socialism, it is necessary that the American working class establish its political independence from the capitalist parties. For that there is required today a workers' political party much broader than the Communist or Socialist Parties, but which would necessarily have to include both parties. That is why we propose a Farmer-Labor Party, based on the immediate needs and demands of the toilers, a party which couldn't be either Socialist or Communist, but which must be neither anti-Socialist nor anti-Communist. It will have to be a party embracing all those who are ready to break with the capitalist parties."

Why can't we unite on a wide campaign in the trade unions, in the farmers' organizations, in the middle class organizations, in favor of a Farmer-Labor Party? Why can't we work jointly in these mass organizations to secure their endorsement of organizing a Farmer-Labor Party? Why can't we unite forces to begin building local united committees for the promotion of a Farmer-Labor Party movement? Furthermore, in a large number of localities, and even in some states, the situation is mature for the actual organization of local and state labor parties which from the very outset would rest upon and receive the support of widest masses of toilers. Why don't we do it?"

Everything I have said in this debate I say not as an individual. I speak in the name of my party, with the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of the entire body of membership as expressed in a series of great meetings, and of the entire Central Committee, which has just concluded a meeting attended by 300 leading Party workers from all over the country. Our entire Party is fired by the burning desire to do everything possible, by word and deed, to bring about the united front—such a great united front as has existed for over a year in France and to build around it an even greater people's front—the Farmer-Labor Party against fascism and war. Reaction and fascism in the United States are mobilizing for attack."

# A Letter From Wartime Italy

Radio Operator Describes Conditions in Genoa—Common People Do Not Support Murderous Invasion of Ethiopia

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The following letter from a former student of the San Jose State College throws as much light on the international situation as the reports of foreign diplomats. It was published in the Spartan Daily of December 11, 1935.

Dave Michaels, the writer, attended San Jose State College during 1933 to 1934. Before that he was assistant radio operator on the Dollar lines for six years. He was forced to leave school by pressure of economic necessity and is now Chief Operator on the Dollar steamship President Van Buren.

We are reprinting his letter as published in the Spartan Daily, college newspaper.

Genoa, November 19

Dear Mr. McQuarrie:

Greetings again from the well-known spaghetti fields. We arrived yesterday morning for a two-day stay. Italy is particularly interesting this trip because of the war situation. The anti-British feeling is ever increasing. Last evening I met a soldier of fortune—an American born Italian who came over to join the Italian forces with 100 lira per day as the inducement. However, he is receiving only five lira per day and is limited to four cigarettes per day. He said that he is sailing for Ethiopia next week and doesn't even hope to ever return. Such is the irony of fate.

## NOT OF THE PEOPLE

The war is not a war of the common people. I have made a special effort to determine just what the laboring classes, and particularly the young people, actually think of the war being waged on Ethiopia.

The common people are secretly in favor of the sanctions being enforced with the hope that it will force "The Iron Hand" to withdraw his troops from the war zone. Last week we passed several troops in the Suez canal and the soldiers were shouting and singing happily, little knowing the dreadful fate awaiting them in that flea bitten country in East Africa.

The press here is so hopelessly censored that the people know little of what is actually going

on. The "Iron Hand" allows them to read just what he wants them to read and little else.

## EXTREME POVERTY

I took a walk about town last evening, using my French and a smattering of Italian to good advantage. One must speak in a whisper when even mentioning the war. Extreme poverty is much in evidence. Many women previously in respectable occupations are stooping to the lowest possible means of existence. Morality is shot.

The meatless days are just that. The butcher shops are closed completely on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Any establishment that had previously displayed English signs has been forced either to remove them completely or mutilate them beyond readability.

Luxury taxes are beyond belief. American cigarettes are 68 cents a package. Candy is almost priceless. Theaters and other amusement places are forced to charge exorbitant prices. Some have been forced to close their doors.

## CONTROL OF RADIO

Ninety per cent of the radio programs are devoted to anti-league propaganda.

I expected almost any moment last night to find a stiletto in the middle of my back, but I guess I don't look like an Englishman because I wasn't even approached. Many turned and stared as though I were somewhat of a museum piece.

Americans are highly respected here at present. President Roosevelt's name is often mentioned favorably. Last evening I met an old acquaintance, formerly le maître d'hotel at one of the leading restaurants. He told me in perfect French that the common people had the greatest respect and admiration for Roosevelt because of his humanitarian attitude towards the "great injustice" or apportionment of economic sanctions. Remember Mussolini said, "I don't read history. I make history." And true enough, though the way in which he makes it seems a little bloody.

Well, just a few lines from the hot spot.

Dave Michaels

## FLESH AND BONE FOR FUEL



The Italian people were starved and sweated to pay for the bullets this machine gun pours out.

## WPA Strikes in Jan.

STAUNTON, Ill.—(FP)—Walk-outs of relief workers in Illinois and Iowa against the Roosevelt starvation wage scales of the WPA seem destined to give federal officials a headache early in the new year. In Iowa the walk-out has been called for Jan. 2, while an original Dec. 16 zero hour in Illinois has been set back in order that the workers of both states may act in concert. Illinois WPA officials have already offered a 10 per cent wage boost-bribe in an effort to kill the strike.

Roosevelt is no obstacle against it. The Farmer-Labor Party will be. Let us unite to build it. We are driving towards this goal, and we will reach it.

The United Front is possible. It is a life and death necessity of the working class and the toiling masses.

## Disabled Worker Donates to W.W.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—First contribution to be mailed in the Western Worker Bureau, 224 So. Spring street, Room 402, was received here this week from a physically disabled worker.

He writes: "Inclosed find a dollar bill for the Western Worker drive. You would see me often at different affairs, but only for my physical disability, but it won't stop me from making the paper successful. I will make it my duty to make it a success. Comradely yours, J.B."

MARTINEZ, Calif.—Oil Workers' Union No. 5 of Martinez has voted to affiliate with the American League Against War and Fascism.

## Alaska Union Miners Who Defeated Company Frame-Up



Just a few of the twenty-five union miners and longshoremen who were acquitted of alleged "rioting" in Alaska. They were defended by International Labor Defense Attorney Irvin Goodman of Seattle. Owners tried to break a strike in the Alaska Juneau Gold Mine last June by running scabs through the picket lines. The strikers fought with bare fists against an attack with guns and clubs. Fifty union men were arrested and twenty-five brought to trial. Those in the picture are: bottom row: Nygreu, Attorneys Goodman and Rojeam, Crosier; middle row: Dibofo, Beavert, Peterson, Andersen, Datoff, Giovannetti, Rennie; back row: Agoff, Correll, Saren, Dzaloff, Daroff, Ball, Larson, Warner, Matthews, Granes. Omitted: Farlin, Eilers, Sumara, Romer, Engberg and Kobak.

# A Page of Features Selected From Four Year File of the Western Worker

## CLEARING UP THE "POINT CLEAR" *By Stephen Peacock*

(Reprinted from issue of July 11, 1935)

In trying to see the point clear on the "Point Clear," scab ship from Canada loaded with "hot cargo" and picketed by San Francisco maritime workers on Pier 54, we carefully followed the "news" on the subject as she appeared in the Morning Sewer, Afternoon Belch and Evening Stench.

After boiling down, straining, filtering and disinfecting this "news," this is how she looks.

### JUNE 25

(Morning Sewer) San Francisco. A new revolution is brewing on the waterfront at Pier 54, where red longshoremen refused to unload the steamer "Point Clear" which arrived today from Alaska with a load of orange juice for the Children's hospital.

It is reported that a delegation of doctors, nurses and children is preparing to picket the picketing longshoremen and demand that the orange juice be delivered to the suffering children.

Indignation against the Communists on the waterfront is rising all over the Bay areas.

### JUNE 26

(Afternoon Belch) San Francisco. An unheard of atrocity is being committed on Pier 54 where foreign sailors are trying to prevent the landing of American pineapples just arrived from Hawaii on the "Point Clear."

The pineapples were consigned to the Home for the Incurable and great suffering is being caused to the helpless patients by the wild men on the waterfront.

The temper of the American people in California is rising hourly.

### JUNE 27

(Evening Sewer) San Francisco. Leaders of the Maritime Federation refused to give any reason for picketing Pier 54, where the steamer "Point Clear" is docked with a cargo of medicine and surgical instruments from the Congo.

In view of the epidemic of small pox, scarlet fever and falling arches which is spreading all over the city, the refusal of the longshoremen to unload the serum, is creating a tense situation.

When Mr. Planter, head of the Waterfront Exploiters Union was notified about the picketing, he broke down and wept bitterly.

"What do they want from our young lives, anyhow," he sobbed. "Me and the rest of the bosses would give our last shirt to those boys on the waterfront, we mean the loyal and reasonable boys like Scharenberg, Peterson & Co. We love the boys and the boys love us. So what is it all about, anyhow?"

Mr. Planter, when questioned further, admitted that the boys all wanted to work and would unload the "Point Clear" in a minute if only two or three reds down there were not holding them back. He blamed most of the trouble on Harry Bridges.

As he uttered the name "Bridges," Mr. Planter was seized with a terrible fit of apoplexy and the interview had to be abruptly terminated.

### JUNE 28

(Morning Sewer) Addis Ababa (Special Associated Gas Dispatch). Emperor Haile Selassie of Abyssinia categorically denied that Harry Bridges was to become commander-in-chief of the Ethiopian army, when the contract between the Pacific Coast marine workers and employers expires in September.

"I think I can get along without Mr. Bridges," smiled the Emperor, as he dodged a couple of bombs from an Italian airplane. "Besides," he remarked as he adjusted his gas mask, "I still have faith in justice."

Meanwhile, Bridges' barbarians are still picketing the load of bananas on the Point Clear.

### JUNE 29

(Afternoon Belch) Cailander, Ontario. As the Dionne quintuplets were making their first radio broadcast, Dr. Dafoe, the babies' physician, positively denied that the children in any way resembled Harry Bridges.

Even as Dr. Dafoe was making this withering attack upon Bridges, it was reported from unimpeachable sources that Andrew Furuseth and Joseph Ryan, Eastern heads of the longshoremen and sailors, were preparing to revoke the charters from the Pacific Coast organizations and turn them over to a group of loyal sailors and seamen who have been hibernating at Moosejaw, Medicine Hat and points north since they left the Pacific Coast waterfront rather hurriedly last summer.

"Them reds out there," Furuseth and Ryan were quoted as saying, "had better unload that herring or else..."

### JUNE 30

(Evening Stench) Sultana, Turkey. Toofing Bay, Minister of Interior Decorations refused to comment on the charge that the harem workers had organized in an industrial union and had been invited by Harry Bridges to join the Maritime Federation.

However, Goofey Bay, minister of labor, spoofed at the whole proposition. "Nothing to it," said Goofey. "The loyal cunuchs have landed and the situation is well in hand."

It is reported on the best of best authority that a serious situation has developed in connection with the refusal of the red marines to unload the "Point Clear" for no reason at all. It seems that the damp weather is having a disastrous effect upon the cargo of canned persimmons.

### JULY 1

(Morning Sewer) San Francisco. It is relayed from unimpeachable sources that a split is developing in the Longshoremen's Union over the failure of Bridges' subjects to unload the cargo of condensed milk on the Point Clear.

With the 4th of July approaching, conservatives in the union were aroused to a high pitch at a meeting last night when the radicals forcibly ejected a Committee of old women appealing to have the ship unloaded in the interest of their starving infants.

A general riot started. The conservatives, led by Biff Mullins, threw out the radicals led by Jascha Butinski.

### JULY 2

(Evening Stench) San Francisco. It was whispered in undeniably unimpeachable sources that the Bridges leadership on the Pacific Coast is done for...

In the general rioting which broke out last night before the meeting opened, the radicals and conservatives threw each other out.

In the meantime immigration authorities are investigating a report from Hongkong that Harry Bridges was born in Jerusalem and is a graduate of the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati.

Blowing around the waterfront is another well-founded rumor that with the vote being taken on the "conservative" issue of unloading scab cargo, and with the approach of the United States fleet of 33 warships and 22,000 men, Bridges is feeling shaky and preparing for parts unknown.

So far as I know, the sardines on the Point Clear are still being neglected.

### JULY 4

Well, folks, we will now present you with a sad little ditty written jointly by the Sewer, Belch and Stench, entitled "At the Weeping Wall Where the Weeping Willows Vegetate."

San Francisco. We hate to say it, but we got to, because everybody will know it anyhow.

1. "Out of a total of 2049 votes cast for delegate to the I. L. A. Convention in New York by San Francisco Local 38-79, Bridges received 1759 votes."

2. "Harry Bridges was elected President of the District Council No. 2, of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific."

3. "In a vote on the question of unloading scab cargo taken by the Pacific Coast Marine Federation, which was really a maneuver by employers, conciliators and conservative leaders to force the hand of Bridges and the radicals, the San Francisco area, at this writing voted as follows: not to unload, by a staggering majority."

## POETRY, TRAGEDY AND SATIRE FROM 4 YEARS OF STRUGGLE

A word before you read this page. It is made up entirely of features that have appeared in previous issues. We don't claim they are as representative as they should be; but to make up a really comprehensive presentation of the best our old files have to offer, we would have to put out a small book.

From the year 1932 we have taken the "Fable of the White Angel," an excellent piece of workers' correspondence, done in a little different fashion than most stories from our readers. 1932 was our first year of publication. San Francisco readers will remember the "White Angel," and the dump of misery she lorded it over. Personally, we doubt if the Salvation Army offered her fifty thousand to vacate; more likely it was five thousand.

The short story by Comrade Cooley is from our file of 1933.

Our East Bay readers will remember the tragedy on which it is based.

Comrade Quin's poem appeared in the first of the two "terror issues" of 1934. A week after the police and vigilantes raided our offices and smashed our printshop the Party put out a baby Western Worker in tabloid size. "These are the Class War Dead" appeared in the first of them. (After just two of these issues the paper returned to the regular size, went from a weekly to a semi-weekly and increased to six pages.)

Do you remember the "Point Clear" and the beginnings of the dispute over "hot cargo"? The satire on that incident is one of the best pieces Comrade Peacock has turned out. It was printed in 1935.

The ink drawing by Beau Vincent and the political cartoon by Collyer speak for themselves.

## These Are the Class War Dead!

Dedicated to the two class war heroes, Nick Coundeorakis and Howard Sperry, murdered by the police on the waterfront on Bloody Thursday.

By MICHAEL QUIN

Stop in your tracks, you passer by,  
Uncover your doubting head;  
The working men are on their way  
To bury their murdered dead.

The men who sowed their strength in work  
And reaped a crop of lies,  
Are marching by. The bosses' doom  
Is written in their eyes.

Two coffins lead the grim parade  
That stops you in your tracks;  
Two workers lying stiff and dead  
With bullets in their backs.

We want no priests or demagogues  
With empty talk or prayers.  
For these were honest working men,  
Not governors or mayors.

The blood they left upon the street,  
Was workers' blood and red;  
They died to make a better world,  
These are the class war dead!

Stand back you greedy parasites,  
With banks and bellies filled,  
And tremble while the working class  
Buries the men you killed.

For this is our word to those who fell,  
Shot down for bosses' gain,  
We swear to fight until we win,  
YOU DID NOT DIE IN VAIN.

(From issue of August 1, 1934.)

## ADVENTURES OF A TELEPHONE BOOTH

By Ronald R. Cooley

(Reprinted from our issue of February 27, 1933.)

A telephone booth is an unexciting object. No entertainment or adventure within forty rods of it. You step inside, close the door, take down the receiver and drop your nickel. (The nickel is the most important thing about this business.) There's a click and a jingle and Central answers—

"Number, please?"

"Berkeley five-two-three-five."

"Five-two-three-five."

"Yes, yes! Please, please hurry?"

There is the click of a receiver.

"This is the Berkeley Health Center."

"Send a doctor quickly! My children are terribly, terribly sick! They roll and cry—"

"What is the name, please?"

"Moreno; Mrs. Joseph Moreno. Send a doctor quickly! The little ones may die—"

"And your address?"

"Nineteen, nineteen, Fifth street. Oh, please hurry! The children—"

"Have you ever received help before?"

"Pardon? . . . Si, si! Many times. We have no money to pay. Please send a doctor quickly! My little ones scream and roll with the pain—"

"Mrs. Moreno, we cannot send you a doctor. We will give you an appointment for 2:15 tomorrow. Bring the children down to the clinic and Doctor Sassaman will attend to them."

"But, Missus, I must have a doctor now! The children are so sick—"

"Bring them tomorrow to see Doctor Sassaman. Your appointment is for 2:15."

"But Senora! I must have a doctor! And I have no more nickels for the telephone, to call someone else. My neighbors gave me this nickel—"

of God! . . ."

It's no use. Your nickel's gone, and they've hung up.

Let's look around us. The interior of this drug store is filled with neat displays of bargains, on tables, counters and shelves. Prices have certainly come down on flashlights and medicines these days. Too bad we haven't any money to buy.

Here comes a man, evidently a worker, in a grim hurry. He enters the telephone booth.

Drop your nickel. Click. Jingle.

"Number, please?"

"I want an ambulance!"

There is the click of a receiver.

"This is the ambulance department."

"Send an ambulance to nineteen, nineteen, Fifth street! And be damned quick about it!"

"A little courtesy might help."

"Courtesy hell! There are two children in convulsions at that address—the Berkeley Health Center just refused them help. You send an ambulance! This is a representative of the Unemployed Council speaking!"

Bang!

The outside of this drug store is a unique example of individuality. There aren't more than a hundred thousand like it. Expensive plateglass windows, backed with a fine array of "sale bargains" in the latest cures for constipation. Each bargain carries its former price (carefully crossed off) and its "special sale" price.

But here comes the proprietor in a dicken's of a hurry. He dashes into the telephone booth.

He drops his nickel. Click. Jingle.

"Give me the Police Department, quick!"

The click of a receiver . . .

"This is the Police Department."

"Send a riot squad to nineteen, nineteen, Fifth street! There's a bunch of unemployed workers

ganged up there. They're getting ready to march on the City Council to demand cash relief and free medical care, or some such foolishness. I'm afraid they'll start rioting . . ."

Click!

And I don't want my store wrecked. I don't carry riot insurance . . ."

You're talking to the air, mister. They've hung up.

Ho-hum.

Hello. More people in a hurry, this afternoon.

Drop your nickel, mister. Click. Jingle.

"Number, please?"

"Nut-Hill, four-seven-nine-one . . ."

Click.

"Hello! Gimme the city editor, and make it snappy!"

"City editor speaking . . ."

"Hello, chief? This is Brown. Better hold the presses. This riot story is good. The two kids were starvin'—not gettin' enough relief—so they've been pickin' garbage—their mother didn't know it—and Health Center turned 'em down and one died before an ambulance could get 'em to a hospital. The other isn't expected to live—"

"Wait a minute, young fellow. We're not holding the presses for a story like that. And be careful how you write it up. Better let me see your copy. Come on in."

Click.

Hung up on you, didn't he? We bet you're a cub reporter. Well, you'll learn.

Have you noticed that the telephone booth does this drug store credit? It's a neat, new, shiny affair, with an upholstered seat and folding door—

Hello, here's our friend the worker, again.

What's wrong with him?

He enters the booth. This time he digs out a dime. Click. Jingle.

## "For the Glory of Italy"

By Colly



(From issue of July 11, 1935)

### ODE TO HEARST

The newsboy bawls  
In streets and halls,  
And shouts before the door;  
And the man who buys  
Reads all the lies  
He read a month before.

## THE FABLE OF THE WHITE ANGEL

(From the issue of August 1, 1932)  
By a Jobless Worker.

In the beginning of the great collapse there were divers persons without work or substance (also known as bums) on the waterfront of the city of San Francisco. And driven by hunger, they begged foodstuffs from staid businessmen, such as butchers, bakers, owners of vegetable marts, coffee roasters and the like.

Now it so happened that parcel of real estate bordering on Battery, Union and Filbert streets was used for a depository for discarded ship anchors and their chains. The workers without work deemed this parcel of real estate the ideal spot to convert the donations of the merchants into palatable meals. And when the chore of cooking was done the men were able to wash their raiment and kill the inhabitants thereof by causing the rinsing water to boil. And when the shades of night began to fall they would gather about the fire and talk and someone would arise in wrath and damn the masters that worked them to the last ounce of their strength, rewarded them with a pittance and kicked them out to starve when the result of that furious toil became apparent in bursting warehouses and glutted markets.

And it came to pass that a corpulent lady, borne in her gas chariot, espied the cooking place (also known as the jungles) of the workless workers. And the lady, being a true Christian, knowing well the rewards of charity, came in the name of Jesus to take the jungle unto herself. And lest the men should become unruly she hurried to establish for herself the exclusive right to inhabit the resting place of worn and weary anchors and their chains.

The owner of the place is an Israelite named Ruef, who so brazenly robbed the good city of San Francisco in the days of her great calamity that his fellow grafters were obliged to cast him into prison. Ruef and the obese female saw eye to eye. Divers buildings came to be erected, one even so as to look like a ship. Thus, instead of the free and easy jungles there was now a soupline, exactly like any other soupline throughout the land. A

place of dead hope and gaunt despair.

The fat lady made a loud noise so that the world should come and look upon her works of charity. For if you would make charity pay you must possess, firstly: a horde of frowsy bums; secondly, you must be able to excite the rich to come and view the frowsy bums in order to separate them (the rich) from their hard shekels. And behold, her prayers were answered. Came from the kept press a female reporter who, being ill-favored, only prostituted her brain. This intellectual whore wrote a glowing account of the doings of the fat lady and dubbed her the White Angel.

God caused the white angel to prosper so that other charity agencies who also fatten on the miseries of jobless workers became green with envy. And by means that are as nasty as the contents of the sewer in the bowels of the city of San Francisco, tried to have her banished. But the white angel, having a rat-like cunning herself, was able to checkmate the moves of her fellow charity dispensers. And one of them, the Salvation Army, offered her money to vacate.

And straightaway the angel mounted the building in the form of a ship and cried to the multitude that had gathered to witness the feeding of garbage to the frowsy, hopeless bums: "The Salvation Army has offered me fifty thousand dollars to vacate this place!"

And strange as it may seem, neither the multitude nor the bums even gave a fleeting thought to the fact that a soupline should be worth that much money.

**DR. LEON KLEIN**  
DENTIST  
ROOM 807, FLOOD BLDG.,  
870 MARKET ST.  
Phone: SUtter 2188  
SAN FRANCISCO  
Special Reduction for Readers

**DAVE the TAILOR**  
227 THIRD ST., San Francisco  
Bums and sells new and used clothing. He also cleans and presses and repairs clothing. Special consideration to readers.

## "Once I Built a Railroad . . ."



(From issue of October 17, 1935)

By BEAU VINCENT

## EAST OF THE Rockies

### Nazis Doom Coops New Labor Paper Pharmacists' Union Cossacks Denounced A.F.L. Warns Tampa Spy System Loses

NEW YORK.—(FP)—Germany's cooperative movement, once the pride of the world, is being relentlessly wiped out, the Labor Chest for Relief and Liberation of Workers of Europe, headed by President William Green of the A. F. of L., has charged. The same condition exists in the huge sick and insurance funds built up by German labor in pre-Hitler days.

PATERSON, N. J.—(FP)—With the appearance of the first issue of The Paterson Press, cooperatively-owned 24-page weekly, the long-cherished dream of Paterson trade unionists for a communist paper fair to their cause has at least been realized.

Both Paterson dailies have been unfair to the labor movement since 19 months ago, when newspaper printers went on strike. With the prolongation of the struggle there appeared The Printers' Voice, published by the striking printers, and now succeeded by the larger Paterson Press with a more inclusive appeal.

NEW YORK.—(FP)—Less than 30 per cent of drug stores in metropolitan New York are inspected even once in five years, a survey by the Pharmacists' Union indicates. Pointing out that Sec. George W. Mather of the State Board of Pharmacy, in charge of inspection, is also executive secretary of the State Pharmaceutical Association, an organization mainly of drug store proprietors, the union charges laxness in regular inspections to see that registered pharmacists are in charge and proper equipment and drugs used.

LANSING, Mich.—(FP)—The Michigan Federation of Labor will seek the disbandment of the state police in the next legislative session, ending a reign of "cossack strikebreaking," Sec. John Reid of the federation told a meeting of all automobile workers of Lansing.

The state police are at present attempting to break a metal polisher's strike at Grand Haven. Reid has warned Gov. Frank D. Fitzgerald that two earlier instances of such "cossack tactics" have earned him the general suspicion of labor, and asked that they be withdrawn immediately.

Fitzgerald only recently made his position toward labor clear by denouncing the social security program and refusing to call a special session for enactment of companion legislation in this state.

WASHINGTON.—(FP)—A sharp threat that the 1936 convention of the American Federation of Labor will not be held in Tampa, Fla., unless officials of that city inaugurate a thorough investigation of the killing of Joseph Shoemaker, arrest those guilty of the outrage and conduct a proper prosecution in the courts has been spoken by Pres. William Green. National attention has been centered on the city since Shoemaker, a trade unionist and head of the Modern Democrats, was kidnapped by vigilantes and beaten so badly that death followed.

WASHINGTON.—(FP)—The slimy spy system of the Fruhauf Trailer Co. of Detroit seems headed for the ashcan. A "cease and desist" order has been issued by the National Labor Relations Board following hearings which disclosed that the company maintained an elaborate gumshoe squad to keep track of union activities in its plant. The company has applied for an injunction to prevent enforcement of the order, which also called for reinstatement of seven workers fired for union work.

SUPERIOR, Wis.—(FP)—The year's goal of a \$2,000,000 volume of business had been surpassed by the Central Cooperative Wholesale on Dec. 1, when the amount reached \$2,048,500, or 24 per cent more than the volume for the first 11 months of 1934. New cooperative stores and increased turnover of old ones account for the rise, reports Manager H. V. Nurmi.

The peace policy of the Soviet Union is against every attempt to enslave racial minorities.

## National Gallup Miners' Defense Committee Set Up

30 TRADE UNION LOCALS JOIN FIGHT TO FREE MINERS

NEW YORK.—(FP)—The National Gallup Defense Committee has been set up, with President William E. Kuehnle of the Hartford Central Labor Union as chairman and Frank L. Palmer, editor of The People's Press, as secretary-treasurer.

The committee succeeds the provisional body which has functioned thus far and will direct defense efforts on behalf of the three Gallup, N. M., miners who were framed for union activities and sentenced to 45 to 60 years at hard labor. Representatives of 30 trade union locals and central bodies throughout the U. S. constitute the committee.

The three defendants, Juan Cheloa, Manuel Avitia and Leonardo Velarde, were among those singled out for prosecution following an eviction demonstration in company-controlled Gallup. A revolver and tear gas barrage were directed against the crowd, killing two unemployed miners and slaying the sheriff himself by the crossfire of his own deputies.

The committee has retained the firm of William J. Donovan, former assistant U. S. attorney-general, to handle appeals.

### CONFERENCE CALLED

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.—A conference will be held on Sunday, January 19th, to carry on a nation-wide campaign to free the three victims of vigilantism. A call has been issued to trade unions, farmers, church groups and fraternal orders to send delegates to this conference, which is under the auspices of the Santa Fe Gallup Defense Committee.

How good is your unit working? Did you carry out your last plan of work? Are you improving from week to week? How is further improvement to be made?

# Attend the New Year's Celebration

## Huge Bazaar Opens With a Bang at San Francisco

As this issue of the Western Worker rolls off the press, the 1936 Workers' Press bazaar is getting under way to what from all indications will be the most successful event ever staged, since the founding of the paper on January 1, 1932.

The Bazaar Committee with pardonable pride, state that it will be of such abundance and variety, it will put the famous bazaars of Bagdad to shame.

The thousands of San Francisco workers who are to attend this affair will find a veritable gold mine of furniture, fur coats, silks, and bric-a-brac too many to mention, to which they will be able to purchase at almost the cost of only one refrain of the "Internationale".

And food—of a variety and quality that would appease even a sea-going peasant. There will be Russian dinners, Chinese dinners, Jewish dinners and for those who still retain a bit of the old bourgeois tastes, there will be a special dish of corned beef and cabbage.

Entertainment—of a nature and calibre that has aroused Major Bowes to a greenish-hued envy. Strong rumor has it that the staff of the Western Worker, secretly a group of famous American songsters, who were forced to leave that country when the revolution broke out, will render a few songs for the benefit of those who have eaten too much of the bazaar food. To compensate this, in the event they do sing, other entertainers will be offered for the approval of the workers.

All workers are notified to send in all funds they have collected to the Western Worker Drive Committee, 121 Haight street, San Francisco, immediately.

And by all means, every worker should not only be sure to attend the affair, but they must bring along their neighbors and let them share in the fun and aid in the drive to insure the continued upward growth of the Western Worker.

Further financial contributions will do much to help the League in its fight against war and fascism.

## Pick Out the Affair Nearest to You Make It Your Duty to Attend for NEW YEAR'S EVE.

### AT OAKLAND

Danish Hall, 164 Eleventh St. Starts Early—Ends Late

### AT LOS ANGELES

Take Your Pick WORKERS' CENTER, 2706 BROOKLYN AVE. Or CULTURAL CENTER, 230 SO. SPRING ST.

### OAKLAND CELEBRATES, TOO

Oakland will have its gala affair, too, when the New Year's Eve rolls around. Dancing, refreshments of many varieties and a good program of entertainment has been arranged for the East Bay workers. All workers in this area must make it a point to be there.

The climax, of course, will be the Grand New Year's celebrations. Do not miss any of the events, or you will regret it.

The success of the drive will be measured by the number of workers who join in the festivities. Let us all be Stakhanovites. Bring every one of your friends. Attend all the events. Help build the workers' press. On to an eight-page Western Worker.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The regional conference of the American League Against War and Fascism reported receipts at \$235.14 and disbursements of \$169.27, leaving \$65.87 cash on hand. Uncollected pledges total \$48.00.

Further financial contributions will do much to help the League in its fight against war and fascism.

## SOVIET UNION TO ACCELERATE BUILDING RATE

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION TO BE INCREASED

MOSCOW.—Plans for speeding up the Soviet building industry were laid down at a conference recently held here. The building trades have been lagging behind the rapid rate of progress shown by the balance of Soviet industry in the past year.

The building program for 1936 calls for the expenditure of 32 billion rubles, of which 17 billion rubles will be used for building purposes and the remainder for factory equipment. In 1935, 13,300,000,000 rubles were allotted for buildings.

The greatest part of the increase will go for dwellings, hospitals and schools. Expenditures for these purposes will be four times the amount spent this year.

At the conference, workers in the building industry criticized their own shortcomings, and that of the officials, Walter Duranty,

## House Parties Many As Los Angeles Pushes Drive

LOS ANGELES BUSY

And from the little but promising village of Los Angeles comes loud reverberations, indicative of unusual activities. With many affairs and events being held in and about that charming little southern metropolis, Sid Grauman is seriously considering closing the Chinese Theater, until the Western Worker drive and bazaar is over.

The Fastside workers are staging a New Year's carnival which is claimed to be only outshadowed by the list of events to be staged at the Cultural Center.

One of the highlights of local affairs will be a double Red wedding, which will be staged at 1747 1/2 Florence ave. On the same bill and at the same place, the Rebel Players will present "Inquest".

The Los Angeles Press Conference have already laid plans for a series of major events following the many New Year's parties, which are being staged by the various sub-sections.

The Los Angeles section has already raised \$849.66 towards its quota; \$1000 in addition to this, which was raised during the Daily Worker drive, has been banked.

The Downtown sub-section will also stage a gala New Year's frolic at the Cultural Center.

The enthusiasm displayed by workers insures Los Angeles of raising its full quota. But don't leave it all up to your committees. Round up all your acquaintances. Bring them to the affairs. Make them help build the workers' press.

famous Moscow correspondent, pointed out in a dispatch to the N. Y. Times that the conference proves that "an honest, two-listed workman can stand up and talk today in this country where the landlords and gendarmes were masters and the rest of the nation were slaves."

## HERO



Nikita Isotov, coal miner from the Donbas region of the Soviet Union who has just been awarded the Order of Lenin for his excellent work in the mines.

## Modesto Framed In Appeal for United Defense

CONFERENCE SLATED FOR JANUARY 12TH

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—A call has been issued labor and liberal organizations to send delegates to the Modesto Defense Conference to be held at the Building Trades Temple, Sunday, Jan. 12th, at 2 p. m., under the auspices of the Modesto Defense Committee.

The call has been sent out as a result of the request of the eight victims of the vicious Standard Oil frame-up plot, who are now in prison pending an appeal, of their conviction on the ridiculous charge of "illegal possession of dynamite."

The prisoners have urged the forming of a united front of all labor defense, trade union and church organizations, to broaden the fight to exonerate them of the Standard Oil sponsored stain, on the maritime unions and all organized labor.

An appeal for funds are being made to carry on a nation-wide campaign to rally support. Contributions should be sent to the Modesto Defense Committee, P.O. Box 3065, San Francisco.

## FOREIGN NEWS Briefs

### 30-Pound Nugget Colombia Oil Strike Jewish Labor Mayor Nazi Failure Polish Prisoners Nazi Church Boycott Concentration Camp

MOSCOW.—Prospectors for gold in the Ural Mountains found a nugget weighing 30 pounds, worth more than \$15,000, the third largest ever found in Russia.

About 100,000 prospectors, organized in cooperatives, are at work in the Soviet Union. They are furnished a grubstake by the government plus a percentage basis on the gold they find. Gold output of the prospectors, estimated at more than \$100,000,000 a year, is in addition to the \$200,000,000 produced by the Gold Trust, which operates modern mechanized mines, dredges, and smelters.

BOGOTA, Colombia.—Negotiations to end the strike of 6000 oil workers at Barrancas are at a standstill following the strikers' rejection of the companies' offer. The government has ordered the transfer of troops to the strike area, preparatory to an attempt to outlaw the strike by force.

TEL AVIV, Palestine.—This new and growing all-Jewish city of 80,000 persons has just elected its first Laborite mayor, Joseph Aronowitz. His opponent, Meir Dizengoff, had been mayor of the city since it was founded.

HELSINGFORS, Finland.—Estonian-Finnish relations have been strained, following the failure of a fascist attempt to seize power in Estonia. Arthur Sirk, its leader, who was in exile in Finland, escaped through the aid of Finnish fascists. The coup is believed to have been financed by German and Finnish Nazis.

WARSAW, Poland.—The Polish government, in an amnesty decree, freed 15,000 criminal and political prisoners. This was made necessary because the 50,000 inmates were beyond the capacity of the existing prisons. Many convicted criminals stayed out of jail because there was no place to keep them.

The large number of criminals in Poland reflects the terrible poverty of the peasants and workers under the present fascist government, which is strongly influenced by the Nazis.

ESSEN, Germany.—The local Labor court ruled that refusal of a worker to enroll his children in the Hitler Youth movement was sufficient ground to justify his discharge.

A proclamation of the Hitler Youth organization at Halle University argued that German youth should serve God by serving the German people through the Hitler Youth and not by church attendance. The proclamation is only part of the anti-church campaign of the Nazis.

BERLIN, Germany.—A petition sent to Hitler by Lord Allen of Hurtwood, England, asking for the release from a concentration camp of Hans Litten, a German lawyer whose only crime was defending Communists in court, was refused in a message by Joachim Ribbentrop, Hitler's special ambassador. It is reported Litten had been badly beaten in the camp.

## GUNS AGAINST DEMOCRACY

### IV.

Appearance of government troops on the waterfront during the San Francisco maritime strike roused public protest which developed into a General Strike. What, then, does labor think of the recent book of instructions issued by the Army to all divisions, showing them how to operate against strikes? The following is a quotation: "Blank cartridges should never be used against a mob, nor should a volley be fired over the heads of the mob even if there is little danger of hurting persons in rear. Such things will be regarded as an admission of weakness, or as an attempt to bluff, and may do much more harm than good."

# Twelve Months of News -- 1935 High Spots

(Continued from Page 3)

of a race riot in a Chico CCC camp.

Hundreds were injured up and down the coast and one striker was slain at Eureka when authorities and vigilantes loosed a reign of terror against the lumber strikers.

Longshoremen supported the lumber strikers by refusing to handle scab cargo.

British Columbia longshoremen were on strike and S. F. longshoremen were refusing to handle cargo from that area.

Mussolini was rattling a sabre in the face of the world and threatening to invade Ethiopia. Ridiculous inventions of Ethiopian "insults" to the Italian flag were popular in the Hearst press.

## JULY

Waterfront employers in S. F. were threatening to lock-out longshoremen because of their refusal to handle HOT CARGO from the British Columbia strike area, or cargo handled by scabs in the bargemen's strike, which was still in progress.

Twenty-five thousand workers paraded in San Francisco and huge demonstrations were held over the whole coast on July 5, anniversary of "BLOODY THURSDAY" of the 1934 maritime strike, when two pickets were murdered in cold blood on the San Francisco waterfront by police. These demonstrations combined a commemoration of "Bloody Thursday" with protest against employers' threats over the "HOT CARGO" issue.

Alaska miners were on strike and resisting an armed offensive by authorities and employers' gangsters.

Unexampled terrorism was loosed against lumber strikers in Eureka and the Northwest.

Unemployed "colonists" who were shipped to the desolate Matanuska Valley in Alaska were voicing bitter protest against conditions.

Maritime and other unions, together with scores of working class organizations endorsed a united front to put a Labor ticket on the ballot in the coming municipal elections in San Francisco.

Kanji Kato, chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions in Japan, was on a speaking tour in America.

National Convention of the International Longshoremen's Association was held in New York. Ryan, with the aid of his reactionary machine, squelched all pertinent issues and raised his own salary.

The International Labor Defense was defending workers arrested both in the Eureka lumber strike and the Amador County mine strike. Acquittals or dismissals were won for all of the Eureka strikers.

## AUGUST

Fight for union rates of pay on WPA projects was launched by the unemployed and unions on a nation-wide scale.

Toll of workers murdered by authorities in the Eureka lumber strike reached three.

Oakland cannery workers, Los Angeles fur workers and San Francisco Sealers were all out on strike.

"Hot Cargo" controversy on the waterfront was blazing furiously and a ballot on the issue was being taken up and down the coast.

Boycott of the Hearst press was spreading rapidly and Hearst was bellowing in rage.

Smelters were on strike in Selby.

Two workers were kidnapped and tarred and feathered and others slugged when vigilantes, with the complicity of authorities, sought to break strikes in the apple and hop fields. Conditions were so deplorable that harvest hands staged a mass exodus from Sonoma County leaving growers with their crops rotting. San Francisco authorities cut hundreds of men off the relief and tried to force them to become pickets at about fifty cents a day. Mass pressure forced them to abandon the effort.

Vigilante/terror was still raging against Amador County miners, now in the eleventh month of their strike.

Henri Barbusse died. The Seventh World Congress of the Communist International was in progress in Moscow.

## SEPTEMBER

The eight victims of the Modesto dynamite frame-up were sentenced to six months to five years each in the penitentiary.

Redfern Mason, president of the Northern California Newspaper Guild (Union) was chosen to run for mayor on the United Labor Ticket in San Francisco.

A tense situation on the waterfront was overshadowing all other issues. Not since the strike of 1934 were relations between maritime unions and shipowners more strained. The arbitration agreements were to come up for renewal or expiration on September 30th. As the day approached, employers raged against the maritime workers in the capitalist press and made all efforts to provoke another strike. Many ships were tied up over the "HOT CARGO" issue which had been submitted to arbitration. Seamen were demanding a clarification of their agreements. Maritime workers displayed firmness and discipline in the face of the situation which placed the employers in the position of having to openly and brazenly attack the unions or abandon their provocative program. Excellent maneuvering by the unions steered the men successfully through the crisis.

Police and gangsters slugged and arrested workers who picketed the Hearst newspaper offices in Los Angeles.

Another longshoreman was murdered in San Pedro by gangsterism of corrupt union officials.

James Garrison, Communist Party member, was arrested on framed charges of assault. No further action has been taken by authorities since it was revealed he was addressing a May Day meeting at the time the alleged "assault" took place in the Presidio. He was released on bail pending trial.

California State Federation of Labor convention was held at San Diego.

Fruit packers won a strike in Oakland.

War fever was high. Mussolini was packing troops and munitions into Eritrea preparatory to

invasion of Ethiopia. The League of Nations was floundering in impotency and Standard Oil was maneuvering for concessions from Haile Selassie in exchange for foreign support.

## OCTOBER

Gulf longshoremen walked out on strike.

The Gallup murder frame-up trial ended in the conviction of three innocent miners to 45 to 60 years at hard labor.

Furniture workers in Los Angeles, mechanics in San Francisco, and cannery workers in San Pedro were out on strikes.

The U. S. Supreme Court refused to review the case of Angelo Herndon and he was ordered to report for imprisonment in the notorious Georgia chain gangs.

A united front of 101 organizations met in Los Angeles to fight for repeal of the C. S. Act and freedom of the C. S. prisoners.

Lorene Norman, one of the C. S. prisoners was released on bail since she was about to have a child.

The State Supreme Court refused to review the case of Louise Todd.

Italy embarked on her invasion of Ethiopia.

## NOVEMBER

Election month. Labor Ticket pulled a significant vote in S. F., though failed to elect candidates. Sweeping gains in united front Labor Tickets throughout nation, in many places candidates being elected.

Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association spent the month shadow boxing over the Gulf strike issue, calling for boycotts on HOT CARGO and then preventing them from being carried out.

S. F. Sealers won their demands and ended a three-month strike. Sanctions against Italy were timidly announced by the League of Nations and enthusiastically enforced by the working class.

"Food shortages and unemployment precipitated crisis in both Germany and Italy."

Louise Todd was denied probation and sent to Tehachapi prison for one to fourteen years.

A Communist was elected to the British Parliament.

The nine Scottsboro boys were reindicted by a grand jury.

S. F. Bargemen won major concessions from employers and ended three-month strike.

Revolt flared against British domination in Egypt.

Japan started her maneuvers to appropriate the North China provinces.

Anita Whitney was convicted on the same election technicality which jailed Louise Todd.

## DECEMBER

Four members of the Sealers' Union were tried on framed charges of murder and were acquitted. They were defended by the International Labor Defense.

Application of the WPA assumed the character of a vast punishment campaign against the unemployed. Carelessness and brutality in transferring the jobless from relief to the new plan resulted in thousands being left temporarily without subsistence.

Angelo Herndon was again released on bail when the "slave insurrection" law under which he was convicted was declared unconstitutional.

MAX REDACTY  
MARK HALL  
231 Valencia St.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
MONDAY - 1 P. M.

# THE WORLD

WE PRINT ARTICLES BY ALL THE LEADING SOCIALISTS AND NEWS FROM ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH

PUBLISHED WEEKLY  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA Friday, November 14, 1935. Subscription Rates: \$3.00 per Annum in Advance. No. 712.

BALL BENNETT  
SUPERIOR  
LORING HALL  
Cor. 11th and Gay  
OAKLAND  
SUNDAY 8 to 9 P. M.

## MOB RAIDS WORLD OFFICE

Alleged Members American Legion Smash Up Furniture and Burn Literature—Bible Trampled Under Foot—Windows Broken—Typewriter Stolen

Metal Trades Council Appoints Special "Jury Committee" to Watch the Application of the New "Criminal Syndicalist" Law in the Trial of James McIngo

"The World," Socialist paper published in Oakland which supported the left wing of the Socialist Party which formed the Communist Labor Party. Later the paper changed its name to the "WESTERN WORKER." The headlines above depict the Palmer raids of 1919.

# Jobless Jottings

By the Boondoggler (L. A.)

The "Red Squad" sirens wildly thru the streets, 50 uniformed "bulls" are corralled and pressed into service, Christmas shoppers dash for safety on the curbs. Has a revolution broken out or has another movie star been slain? Neither! They are racing to answer the call of a stool-pigeon foreman on WPA project C-642, located one-half mile West of Exposition and Jefferson, who has discovered an 87 word leaflet passed out on the job.

Which begins, "Attention Fellow Workers. In Unity There Is Strength" calls for a meeting at 11:30 "to take action in regards to the checks we have failed to get" and is signed "Job Committee."

"He Man" Hynes, red squad head, evidently uses the same tactics in the bedroom as he does on the picket line. According to the allegations of his wife, he kicked, beat and abused her, causing concussions and bruises. She immediately walked out on strike, sued for a divorce and threw a picket line in the form of a restraining order around the \$40,000 which Hynes has been able to, salt away in various banks, while playing the part of stool-pigeon, slagger, liar, and frame-up artist for the money interests of California.

The court should award her the \$40,000 "blood money."

Writing a sadist for 12 years is no snap.

First-aid men on WPA projects are being "requested" to listen to what "suspected radicals" talk about to the other workers and report it to the bosses. Several of them have listened to what the bosses are saying and reported it to the "suspected radicals."

All his life Charles N. Layman was kidded by the System. As a final jest it made him (a 6 ft. 2 in. man) Waterboy on WPA. When he was further kidded by foremen and fellow workers on the project his pent-up emotions cracked under the added strain. With a blast of rifle fire he slew 6 of his tormentors. The System that broke his mind now proposes to break his body at the end of a rope.

At WPA headquarters you are told to report on the job and that there the co-ordinator on the project will "rate you." On the job they know nothing about a co-ordinator and tell you to "inquire at headquarters."

The number of families on L. A. County Welfare rolls have increased from 33,463 in November to 45,727 in December.

Two thousand families weekly are applying to SERRA for aid. Half of these applicants become people never before on relief.

Zimmerman is a dental technician and has spent years learning the trade. The Workless Project Administration (WPA) assigned him to pick and shovel.

Five years ago J. R. C. was making \$800 a month, employed by a chain of national hotels.

Today he is earning \$10 per week and "found" He is a "scholar" for the Tinkle Tinkle Keep the Pot Boiling Army.

A Real Proletarian Barber Shop  
**FOX THEATER BARBER SHOP**  
1372 Market Street  
Union Shop  
Workers' Trade Solicited  
Pay Us a Visit

GREET THE NEW YEAR!

— AT —

## Workers' Press NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

JOLLY GOOD TIME FOR ALL!

GOOD, SHORT PROGRAM - DANCING - REFRESHMENTS (Union Music)

— AT —

DANISH HALL, 164 - 11th St., Oakland  
8 P.M. - December 31st

25c ADMISSION

## RIPTIDES

# COLD CARGO

WHY I WROTE THIS STORY

This story is not meant as a cruel or sordid jest. Nor is it intended to show any callousness or indifference on the part of the seafaring man to the sufferings of his fellow man.

Rather it is intended to portray the chauvinistic attitude created in the minds of seamen by just such things as related in this story. In a small way it should serve to explain one of the underlying reasons for the distinct racial animosity too often expressed along the waterfront. To you readers, who have never sailed on such death-ships, this story is an apologetic excuse for the chauvinism that the seamen have at times practiced. To you, maritime worker, this story is nothing new. It is, however, a reminder of need to discard such racial aloofness, which has in the past years proven to be merely another cudgel in the hands of the shipowners.

To this is the story dedicated, to the international friendship of all workers, regardless of color, race or creed.

By LE MAE

"Be sure and dog those C-deck ports down tight, bo'sun, them Filipinos might get a crazy idea they want some fresh air and flood the damn ship," ordered the mate, as he watched us stretch the top tarpaulin over number seven hatch.

"What the hell will they do for air, mate?" inquired one of the men.

"Well, if it don't get too rough, you can leave a corner of the hatch open; that'll be enough for them," was the indifferent answer.

And so we literally batted down the six hundred and fifty prospective Hawaiian sugar-cane workers, as we prepared for the long, and at best, monotonous run down to Honolulu. The last wedge had been barely driven in the hatch coaming when the icy winds came roaring down from the Straits of Kamohatka. In short order we were rolling on beams end, and the hundred and fifty midship passengers took to their stateroom as the wind whipped the icy seas across the decks.

That night on look-out, as I ducked under the sharp counter in the bow to avoid a drenching from the heavy spray, a flaming star swooped downward from the inky skies and plunged into the abyssal darkness of the horizon ahead. "Death—somewhere," I mused as I recalled an old sea lore.

As we crawled out of our damp bunks the following morning, I learned that the old sea lore still held. "One of the Filipinos went to Davy Jones Locker," the morning watch announced as we wrestled with sliding tin plates at the mess-table.

"Couple of you guys go on up and sew the stuff up. There's a bottle of gin in it for ye," explained the bo'sun in an offhand way as he laid out the day's work.

When argument flared as to who should earn the gin, the bo'sun snarled, "what are you guys arguing about? There'll be plenty more bottles passed out before this trip is over."

The bo'sun's prophecy materialized only too well. Three days out and the ship's doctor, a shell-shocked veteran of the world war, sadly shook his head, as three more emaciated and very cold bodies were carried out from the stench-infested holds. "Some strange, Oriental disease," was his answer to a somewhat worried skipper.

"Well for christ sake get 'em over the side, before them high-priced cattle, midship, get worried," growled the old man as he stomped off in the direction of the bridge.

"Goddam lousy Filipinos! They ought not let them in the country," was the gist of a heated argument in the fore-cabin that evening. "Yeh, they never wash themselves, for christ sake. They're probably dying from some Oriental pox," affirmed one of the quarter-masters.

"Where in hell do you expect 'em to wash at, for pete's sake?" asked one, a little more thoughtful. "We've had them batted down now for seven days, in the

same stuffy vomit-filled holds."

"They ought to chase them back to Manila," observed a young ordinary seaman. "All they'll do when they get to the States is throw some white guy out of a job."

"You guys don't know what the hell you're talking about," piped up the bo'sun's mate. "Do you know the skipper and the quack get a percentage for every Filipino they bring into port alive?"

"Aw, who the hell would pay a bonus for bringing them in alive?" asked another.

"The same people that are sending for them," was the retort, "the big shots that raise pineapples in Hawaii, that run big canneries in Alaska, that own the beet ranches around California, that's who are sending for them and who are paying the bonus."

The argument was suddenly cut short when the ship took an unusual roll. And from deep in the bowels of the ship came the shrill cries of the sick and frightened steerage. It was the parting shot of the gale, for the next morning dawned under perfect skies. Gingerly we lifted the heavy, wet tarpaulins from the hatches. The stench that came out made us sick. "Go on down there and see if there are any more dead ones," the mate ordered.

We did. We got as far as the first deck. The stench was unbearable. Back up into the pure air we fled. One poor soul followed us, wailing in his native tongue. At the top of the hatchway, he pitched flat on his face, — dead.

Amidship, a returning Jesuit missionary received the surly assent of the skipper to hold sea rites over the latest victim. The old timers were chased up to the doctor by the bo'sun. "Sew 'em up pretty good this time, some skip-pilot wants to pray for the stiff," he smirked.

One look at the shriveled little corpse, and the sewing party pined the doctor down. "Say, how about a drink first? That guy smells pretty bad," the spokesman said as he pointed in the direction of the morgue. "Shh," the doctor answered, as he hurriedly handed them the customary bottle. Away they went.

Meanwhile, on the lee side, preparations were made to hold a real sea burial. A hatch cover was laid atop of the ship's rail and the other end placed on an empty drum. Someone broke out a new flag. On the top deck the passengers, their fears somewhat allayed by the obvious callousness and indifference of the crew, lined the railing to watch the proceedings. Even a few of the Filipinos revived sufficiently to watch from a cautious distance.

At six bells the appointed hour, the skipper appeared all decked out in his gold braid and an ugly frown on his face. The mates lined up behind him.

"Bring the body around," he whispered to the doctor, as the missionary appeared with his bible.

A few moments later the doctor appeared with a startled look on his face.

"Well, where's the body?" the old man barked. "I don't know," the doc, gulped.

"Then find it!" the skipper shouted, by now pretty much tired of the whole affair.

"Yessir," the doctor stuttered, and taking the mate with him, off they went. Smelling a rat somewhere, the crew took off in a searching party of their own. Only they went looking for the sewing party, instead of the corpse.

Suddenly from the stern of the ship came the eeriest wailing. Sounded for all the world like a seagull lost in a fog. Hurriedly the crew trailed after the mate and the doctor. Their suspicions were confirmed. There, stretched out on a Chinese coffin, lay one of the burial squad. Propped up against a nearby lifeboat was the other. Facing them stood an

## Treasures of the Poor



"And the poor should be thankful that after seven years of depression they have not lost everything—they still have us, the cultured and dignified aristocracy to which they can look with pride and admiration."

## Books and Pamphlets

"FREEDOM OF THE PRESS," by George Seldes. Price \$2.75. (Bobbs-Merrill, 380 pp., can be had in San Francisco Workers' Book Shop for \$2.20 during Xmas sale.)

Reviewed by Sidney Jones.

Here is a book that ought to be required reading for every man and woman in the republic. And every child, too, over the age of fourteen. Unimpassioned, well-considered and well-documented, non-political (except by implication) it sets forth with pitiless clarity just how the people of this nation are duped and mulcted by the 11 newspapers; newspapers owned, kept, or otherwise controlled by finance capital.

Seldes makes his point in the most effective way possible, by producing facts. And he piles his facts one upon the other so incontrovertibly that it is hard to see how the point could be missed by even the simplest, most untutored mind. And what is that point?

Simply that the American press, with a very few exceptions, belongs to the stock and barrel, to the capitalists.

### DICTATORSHIP

There is, Seldes contends, a growingly strong business dictatorship in the United States, and he supports his contention by ample testimony. That dictatorship is obtained very considerably through the control of the nation's press, and that press is controlled in turn by a variety of methods: (1) advertising, (2) propaganda, (3) out and out subsidies of newspapers and (4) ownership of newspapers by great utilities corporations.

In a chapter headed "Bad Medicine," Mr. Seldes reveals how the press on the whole contributes to the fooling of the public into buying useless, often dangerous and sometimes even downright poisonous "cures" and beauty aids because of the pressure brought by patent medicine and cosmetic manufacturers with their gigantic advertising appropriations, and the threat of withdrawing their ads from the columns of papers who oppose them. What does it amount to in money? asks Mr. Seldes, and then answers,—millions of dollars a year. According to Editor & Publisher, the newspaperman's trade paper, the following figures were gathered by the Bureau of Advertising of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association:

"Druggists' sundries—45 firms spent \$9,000,000 in newspapers. "Toilet goods—36 firms spent \$9,705,000 in newspapers.

"Foods—62 firms spent \$17,460,000 in newspapers, and so on far

empty gin bottle, mouth down.

The mate prodded one of them, "Where's the body?" he asked. The only reply was a thick, "What body?"

Savagely, he prodded his partner. "Where the devil is that body?"

"Hell, we threw it over the side an hour ago," was the startling answer.

into the night. (These figures for the year 1932.)

No wonder the association of American newspaper publishers put itself on record as opposed to the Tugwell bill restricting advertising of such products.

But this is only one aspect of the situation.

### MILLIONS IN CORRUPTION

"The President of the United States," says Seldes, taking up another and even more vicious aspect, "is the author of the charge that the privately owned utility corporations have 'engaged in a systematic campaign of misinformation, of propaganda, of lies and falsehoods!'"

"How and where was this campaign waged?" Seldes asks, rhetorically. "In the press," he replies. "The propaganda and advertising fund used to corrupt the American mind was TWENTY-FIVE MILLION TO THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR."

This is no fancy spun by Mr. Seldes. It is a direct statement predicated upon the findings of the Federal Trade Commission of the United States, which engaged in an investigation, the report of which filled fifty-two volumes.

### WHAT A GOVERNOR SAID

There is not space to reprint all the revolting examples of newspaper corruption by the monied interests, but a statement by a fairly representative member of the capitalist class must be quoted.

And Lee M. Russell of Mississippi, scarcely a radical, or even a liberal, is quoted by Seldes as having written, while governor of his state, the following comments:

"I have noticed throughout the nation for many years the unmistakable signs that the money power of this government was controlling the power of the press. It is rare indeed to see a journal with any circulation and with any standing that would dare to speak out in behalf of the great masses of the people. From the first, along to the last, there is unmistakable evidence that these papers are subsidized. They speak the language of their masters, the predatory interests.

"In our own State we haven't a daily paper that would dare to champion the cause of the common people upon any question, and they follow the wishes of the 'big interests' always..."

Phone SUtter 4518

D. HADGI

PAINTING - DECORATING  
PAPERHANGING

144 Langdon St., San Francisco

STENCIL PAPER per quire \$2.50

Mimeograph Ink per lb. can \$1.25

ECO CO.,

3541 Broadway, Chicago, Ill.

We pay shipping cost.

## Health and the Class Struggle

By FRANKLIN A. BISSELL, M. D.

### THE "LEGITIMATE" DRUG RACKET

Many fake remedies have been exposed in this column and in columns in other publications. The sellers of the quack and worthless medicines are the worst offenders in the drug racket. However, even the "legitimate" and "ethical" retail drug stores exploit and cheat the public constantly.

The drug stores as a whole not only sell the quack remedies, and thus help the fake medicine manufacturers, but they overcharge viciously on prescriptions. Ordinarily, when a druggist fills a prescription, he adds up the retail price of the contents and multiplies by two, which is the price that the customer pays, with a minimum charge of 75c. When there are several drugs in combination in the prescription, there is a good reason for this system of charging, as it takes much skill to make a combination.

However, the majority of prescriptions written today are for either combinations already put up in large quantities by the drug manufacturers, or for a single standard drug. To fill such a prescription, the only skill required is to be able to read and write, and to transfer a given quantity of liquid or tablets from one bottle to another. Possibly, a moron is unable to do this, but we believe that any one above this low level of intelligence could successfully conduct 80 per cent of the drug business.

The main reason that the druggists can get away with this robbery is the superstition and hokum surrounding medical practice and the drug business. Most doctors when writing a prescription write such a half Latin and half English scrawl that even they themselves could not read the prescription two days afterwards. The patient does not know what goes into the prescription, and if

he did, he would wonder often why he paid the doctor a fee. For this reason, he has no way of checking as to whether the druggist is overcharging him.

Hired pharmacists, who do 90 per cent of the prescription filling, are very much underpaid and exploited. In the "high-class" pharmacies, they are paid from \$100 to \$125 a month and in the "cut-rate" stores, they receive from \$70 to \$100 a month.

Assuming that the average "bottle changing" prescription can be filled in about three minutes, a pharmacist could fill about 4000 of these prescriptions a month. Assuming also that there is the modest profit on each prescription of 50 cents besides the difference between wholesale and retail price, there would be the enormous profit of about \$1900 on each hired pharmacist in a month.

The trend in the last few decades to make the drug stores into confectionery and department stores is largely to attract customers into the place of business in order to get their highly profitable prescription trade as well as to sell them a few cents worth of laxatives or pain-killers for a few dollars.

Some doctors try to help their patients avoid this added expense by having them ask for the drug without prescription. This is very unsatisfactory. Others call the druggist on the phone, disguise their voice, and order the drug sent to the patient's home.

### Dr. Franklin Bissell

Physician and Surgeon

ANNOUNCES THE REMOVAL OF HIS OFFICES FROM THE FRANKLIN BLDG. TO THE

Dalziel Building,

ON 15TH STREET,

OAKLAND

(Across from the City Hall)

Office Phone: Templebar 6244

Home Phone: Berkeley 3843-W

(If no answer call Piedmont 0066)

Office Hours: 3 to 6 P.M. and by Appointment.

### Comrades!

Sympathizers!

In order to understand the current situation in the U. S., and the new tactical orientation of the Communist Party—

YOU MUST READ

The December

Communist

Articles by Earl Browder, James W. Ford, William W. Weinstein, Roy Hudson, Alex Bittleman.

20 Cents at

ALL WORKERS' BOOK STORES and at

224 So. Spring St., L. A., Room 418

ANNUAL

## WORKERS PRESS BAZAAR

FOUR DAYS

December 27, 28, 29 and 31

First Day: Concert, 8 p. m. - 5-Course Dinner, 35c (6 p. m. on)

Second Day: Dance, 8 p. m. - Restaurant, 2 p. m. to midnight

Third Day: Athletic Exhibition, Group Dancing, etc.

Full Dinner, 35c, 1 p. m. on

Fourth Day: NEW YEARS EVE GRAND COSTUME BALL

\$27.50 Radio given away to lucky winner

### Special New Year's Dinner

FOUR DAYS OF ENTERTAINMENT - SPECIAL DINNERS  
BAZAAR BARGAINS AND NEW YEAR'S BALL  
BUILD YOUR PRESS—FIGHT FASCISM

121 Haight Street, San Francisco

## New Year's Eve Carnival

Tues., Dec. 31, 8 P.M. - Admission 25c

— AT —

Workers' Center, 2706 Brooklyn Ave.

## Dancing 'Till Morning

PRIZES FOR FUNNIEST AND PRETTIEST COSTUMES

Auspices: Eastside Workers' Club

## WHERE TO GO

ORGANIZATIONS! Get big crowds to your affairs. Advertise them here. Low rates—7c a line, in advance!

### San Francisco

ANY WATCH REPAIRED reasonable. Call between 7 and 9 p. m. 67 Fourth st. at Zlot's Cafeteria.

DANCE EVERY WED. AND SAT NITE, 121 Haight st., at 8:00 o'clock. Different surprises every Wed. and Sat. nite. Auspices Music Club and House Committee.

WANTED—Someone going thru Omaha around New Years to take along 3-year-old child—for \$25. References. Western Worker office.

DANCE AT 779 VALLEJO ST. every Sunday evening after Jan. 1, 1936.

### The Bear Lunch

Food of Superior Quality  
BEER ON TAP - WINES LIQUOR

C. D. Bangas Phone UN-9529  
1116a Market Street,

### Oakland

OPEN FORUM—Every Sunday Nite, 8 o'clock. Workers Center, 419 - 12th street.

GREET THE NEW YEAR! at Workers' Press New Year Celebration. Jolly-good time for all. Good, short program. Dancing, Refreshments, at Danish Hall, 164 - 11th street, 8 p. m., Dec. 31, Oakland. Adm. 25 Cts.

### Los Angeles

Workers forum, 230 S. Spring St., L. A. Every Sunday night—8 p. m. Admission ten cents.

HELP THE WESTERN WORKER Start the New Year Right. Benefit New Year's Eve Dance, Dec. 31, Cultural Center, 230 South Spring street. Auspices: C. P., Downtown Sub-section.

WELCOME 1936 with the Western Worker! New Year's Eve Party, dancing, entertainment, Dec. 31st, 8 p. m., Seymour Hall, 225 S. Myrtle, Monrovia. Auspices: C. P., Pasadena Sub-section.

DR. INGVLSTADT SPEAKS on "Cinema, Drama and Opera in the U.S.S.R." Also the brilliant film in sound, "A Day in Moscow". The Film and Photo League, 5525 Harold Way, Sunday Nite, Dec. 29, 8:30 p. m. Admission 25c.

A SARCASTIC PLAY, "PRIDE of the Japanese People" will be played by the famous Japanese Revolutionary Theater Group at the Japan Nite: Saturday, Dec. 28. Exotic Features, Chop Suey, Dance, etc. All come to Cultural Center.

CELEBRATE 14TH ANNIVERSARY of the Daily Worker at the annual banquet on Sunday, Jan. 19th, at the Cultural Center, 230 So. Spring street. Stellar program. NOTE—NO OTHER AFFAIR ON THIS DATE!

WESTERN WORKER BENE-FIT—A truly full program! Wm. Schneiderman speaks for the Western Worker—a Double Red Wedding—Rebel Players present "Inquest"—Dancing till 3:30 All this at 1747 1/2 East Florence Ave., Los Angeles, on Tues., Dec. 31, at 8 p. m.

### Exp't Mimeographing

and

Stencil Cutting

REASONABLE RATES

Enquire: 1005 Market St., Room 410, San Francisco. Tel. UN-3425

### Inventory and Xmas

BOOK SALE

Dec. 13-Dec. 31, incl.

20 to 50% Discounts

Write for Complete List and

## Western Worker

Western Organ of the Communist Party, U.S.A.  
Founded 1932  
(Section of the Communist International)

Published every Tuesday and Friday  
EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS OFFICES:  
121 HAIGHT ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
Telephone: UNDERhill 9086.

Subscription rates:  
1 Year, \$2.00 3 Months, 60 Cts. 6 Months, \$1.00  
Los Angeles Office, Room 402, 224 So. Spring St.

### The "Oil Embargo" Policy And the Soviet Union

With the infamous Hoare and Laval Ethiopian "robber pact" on the junk heap as a result of the wider international resentment, the once "definitely tabled" oil sanctions are being revived by popular demand of the working class of the world.

And with the new clamor for the rigorous enforcement of oil sanctions against Fascist Italy, the position of the Soviet Union on this point is of vital interest.

Enemies of the Soviet have consistently condemned the Soviet Union for not single-handedly applying an oil embargo against Italy. The full implication of this demand should be obvious to any who understand its relations to the fundamental forces shaping the world today.

The world is dominated by two vital interlocking conflicts, first, the basic clash between the Socialist world (the Soviet Union) and the capitalist world; and the temporary antagonisms existing between the various imperialist powers.

Merely because certain imperialist powers have hitherto nominally supported sanctions against Italy does not necessarily mean that the war could not very conveniently be turned into a united imperialist crusade against the Soviet.

Obviously then, if the Soviet Union alone attempted to apply an embargo against Italy, Mussolini could escape the blind alley up which a united embargo forces him because it would drive him away from the imperialist antagonists into an open combat with the Soviet Union. For one nation alone to stop sending oil to Italy means a virtual declaration of war. But if all nations entered, such action means opening the way to a speedy peace because Mussolini cannot wage war without oil. If Mussolini cannot fight Ethiopia without oil, how could he fight fifty-two nations?

The policies of the French and British imperialists hold grave danger for the Soviet Union, because the basic clash is not between Italy and Great Britain but rather between the Soviet Union and the entire capitalist world.

The recent maneuvering of these imperialist powers has shown the correctness of the Soviet Oil Policy. The collapse of the Laval-Hoare plunder proposal—the continued lack of success of Mussolini's campaign of "civilization"—the strong anti-war sentiment of the People's Front of France—all have re-affirmed the policies carried out by the Soviet Union.

To this end the workers of the entire world must unite in a policy of independent labor sanctions. They must unite in support of the Soviet Union's drive for collectively enforcing League sanctions. If there is to be an oil embargo, then make it an embargo enforced by all nations against the fascist war machine, which threatens the peace of the world.

### Over the Top In the 1936 Financial Drive

Elsewhere in this issue the District Committee of the Communist Party outlines the perspectives for the coming year and details some of our political tasks. One of them is the building of the workers' press.

The WESTERN WORKER begins its annual campaign for funds on January 1st. Already a considerable part of the necessary \$7500 has been raised. However, there is always a tendency to let enthusiasm peter out because of such gratifying early results. This must be carefully guarded against. The full \$7500 must be raised if the WESTERN WORKER is to continue on an improved basis. Our need is greater and our tasks are greater. Not only must we build circulation, but we must find means of making this circulation building easier by means of improvements such as can be brought about only with financial means. The perspectives for these changes are good, and certain features of them will be announced as the campaign develops.

The WESTERN WORKER staff looks forward to the coming year with optimism and confidence, seeing possible a more mature and better quality WESTERN WORKER than ever before.

We greet our correspondents in the outlying sections. We greet the builders of the workers' press. Keep up the good work, comrades. Broaden our fields of readers and broaden the material that comes to us. Over the top in the 1936 Western Worker Financial Drive!

BUILD THE LABOR PARTY!  
BUILD THE UNIONS!

WESTERN WORKER,  
121 Haight Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Enclosed—please find: \$2.00, 1 year....  
\$1.00, 6 months....; 60c for 3 months....  
for my subscription.

Name .....

Street Address (or P. O. Box) .....

City ....., State .....

### Whose Merry Christmas, Mr. President?

In delivering his Christmas message to the people of the United States, President Roosevelt remarked upon the "eternal message of peace and good will to all men," and he described the people before him as being "jubilant with joyous expectations."

This is thoroughly in accord with his usual evasive public utterances.

There is no peace and good will on earth this Christmas of 1935. Death and destruction, poverty and destitution play major roles. It is no merry Christmas for the people being given the run-around by WPA officials, even though charity mongers supplement meagre rations with "Christmas fare" and smug patronage.

The workers of the world have little cause to praise capitalism from which all evils of war, fascism, and hunger flow. Thousands of their leaders and finest fighters have been murdered or jailed throughout the world. War kills and maims thousands of their fathers, sons and brothers. Need stalks through this land of plenty, breeding hatred and despair. Anguish displaces the joy of which the President speaks.

And how have the owners of wealth fared?

The report printed on page one of this issue shows that profits for 238 corporations for the first half of 1935 show 500 per cent increase over the same period in 1933.

The President's reference to the happy people was merely wishful thinking so far as the bulk of the population is concerned. Not so with the rich, whose rising rate of profits causes them to be "jubilant with joyous expectations." They are the fascists who are organized into the American Liberty League, ready to crush those very democratic rights for which Von Steuben, Kosciuszko, Lafayette—the foreign-born American patriots referred to by President Roosevelt—fought during the Revolutionary War.

Paying lip service to prettified sentiment is no solution for problems facing the American people. Not peace reigns, but grim warfare between the rich and the remainder of the population, no matter how this is glossed over by tricks. Idle sentiment, even the "Christmas spirit," has its class connotation. The lesson to be drawn is that of unifying all elements in a powerful front to struggle for peace and progress in a world tormented by contradictions to the point of near self-annihilation.

Christmas, too, with its very human sentiments, is exploited by the rich and their spokesmen. Like everything else, it is their property. "Blessed are the poor," should be countered with the spirit of Shelley's exhortation:

"Rise like lions out of slumber,  
In unvanquishable number.  
Shake your chains to earth like dew  
Ye are many, They are few."

Only Socialism will bring "peace on earth." Only the Russian workers today have real cause to be "jubilant with joyous expectations," because they have abolished capitalism, socially own the wealth they produce, have no need for charity, and feel proud in their stature as free human beings.

### Greetings to the Cleveland Congress

The Congress Against War and Fascism that convenes in Cleveland on January 3rd represents a tremendous step forward in the building of a mobile organized federation of forces to fight for peace and build a bulwark against fascism. Already, from indications in local conferences throughout the country, broader forces than ever before have realized the necessity for unity in one mighty organization, and they have carefully worked out a program broad enough to meet all needs, this to be finally resolved in through discussion by the delegates to Cleveland.

Trade unionists, religious representatives, Socialists and Communists, Townsendites and Epics, students and professionals, have learned to work patiently and harmoniously together, foreshadowing the growth of the united front on other, more political issues.

Every successful experience of this kind shows the way toward an all-embracing people's front capable of setting back the forces of war, fascism and political reaction; giving a breathing spell for the patient working out of the best road to social change that is the order of the day.

We Communists realize that the broadest possible front must be built to meet the urgent necessities of the moment. Then, with free and open discussion, we believe that experience will bring the forces of such a movement to the realization that Socialism is the only way out.

War, so long as capitalism lasts, can only be postponed. With the abolition of capitalism comes the pre-condition for the abolition of war and all the concomitants of capitalism such as poverty, fascism and the choking of progressive trends in society.

Greetings to the delegates leaving for Cleveland. All success to the Congress. May its program of action be carried back into every city and village in the United States; killing the war plans of the imperialist exploiters, stemming the ruthless fascist drive of the American Liberty League and other reactionaries.

COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.,  
121 Haight Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.

( ) I want more information about the Party.

( ) I want to join the Party.

Name .....

Address .....

City ....., State .....

### Stars and Stripes in Alabama



By Beau Vincent

### THE TOWNSEND PLAN, GOOD POINTS AND BAD

COMMUNIST PARTY POSITION ON THE MOVEMENT

### UNITED FRONT SOLIDARITY MUST BE BUILT

(Continued from last issue.)

This is the second instalment of an article outlining the Communist Party program in regard to the Townsend movement. Material for the article was taken mainly from Comrade Alex Bittelman's recent report to the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C. P., U. S. A.

The first instalment described the fundamental position of the Townsendites and the political significance of the movement, including the Communist position on the McGroarty (Townsend) Bill defeated at the last session of Congress.

The Townsend movement, comprising between seven and eight millions of people many of whom are organized in Townsend clubs throughout the country, is of immense political significance. Because of this it is necessary that Communists pay attention to these people.

What is our attitude toward the Townsend movement as a whole?

First, we must demonstrate a general sympathetic friendly attitude toward the masses in that movement and toward the Townsend clubs as such. This friendly attitude is to be based on our endorsement and support of the principle of old-age pension.

But at the same time we must make friendly criticism of the defects of the Townsend Plan. First of all we should point out that the 2 per cent transactions tax will fall inevitably upon the masses. Secondly we must show that the Townsend Plan alone will not take care of the needs of the unemployed nor will it provide adequate social insurance for the needy, even if amended. We must demonstrate the need to fight for a form of social insurance as is embodied in H. R. 2827.

#### PENSIONS INCLUDE ALL

We must show that to confine old-age pensions to citizens alone, manifestly is unfair because there are millions of people in need who do not fall in this category. Many of these workers have families, grown American families, and to deny them old-age pensions is to deny the benefit these pensions will give to millions of Americans.

The fight for a federal bill will be strengthened, not weakened, by a fight for similar state legis-

lation. The passage of an amended Townsend bill will not abolish unemployment. It will be a great relief but not a cure-all. To achieve a land of actual plenty as envisioned by Townsendites means nothing less than the abolishment of capitalism. And to prepare for this we must work to establish a broad Farmer-Labor Party, including Townsendites. This Party will fight all the forces of reaction and for the preservation of the democratic rights of the American people.

We must demonstrate to the Townsendites that we fully agree with them in their condemnation of the fraudulent Roosevelt old-age pensions law. But at the same time we must try to show them that it would be folly to depend upon the Republican Party to secure for us the relief we desire. We must show them that the Republican Party in power means nothing less than the Liberty League in power. They will understand what this means.

#### FIGHT COMMON ENEMY

We must demonstrate through examples, that the Townsend old-age pensions bill could not become a law, even if the majority of congressmen and senators could, by mass pressure, be forced into supporting it. Witness, for instance, the fate of the bonus.

We must carry on a sharp campaign against the enemies of the Townsend plan. We must express the reasons for the comparative silence of the capitalist press regarding this movement. We must show the Townsendites that their struggle is part of the class struggle. The rich want the poor to carry the burden of the crisis. Every criticism of the Townsend plan must begin with an attack and exposure of the capitalist system.

Our press, the Western Worker and the Daily Worker must immediately begin to carry news of the Townsend movement, the doings in the clubs, the life of the movement. We must show the Townsendites that the Communist Party press is willing and anxious to carry news of their struggles. We must introduce our Party press to these people.

#### CAUTION NECESSARY

We must avoid any wholesale evaluation of the leadership of the Townsend movement. We must evaluate each leader individually

and correctly. We will criticize when necessary, attack if necessary, on the basis of concrete and specific actions that are harmful to the masses. It also is necessary to point out consistently the ever-present danger of reactionaries and fascists gaining control of the movement in the interests of the monopolists. Especially dangerous is the final power vested in national headquarters, by the convention decision, "to fix the political policy of the coming campaign." No guarantee, unless by referendum of the entire membership, should have the final power to fix the political policy in the coming national election.

The decision of the convention prohibiting participation in local struggle looks good on the surface. Supposedly this will preserve the non-partisan character of the movement and save it from a break-up as a result of local politics. In reality, however, this decision paralyzes all efforts of the Townsend clubs to collaborate with other sympathetic organizations in the struggle for old-age pensions.

We should not now call upon the masses to join or organize Townsend clubs. But when asked for advice by the workers we should advise them to join in the spirit of our general attitude, i.e. to introduce progressive constructive ideas into the movement.

All Party organizations shall adopt a policy of establishing the closest and friendliest contacts with the Townsend clubs in their territory, of collaborating with them along the above lines of our policy.

It should be the policy of the Party membership in all mass organizations to support the Townsend movement in the above sense, and to establish contact between their mass organizations and the Townsend Clubs.

The Young Communist League has an important role to play. In the resolution on youth adopted by the Townsend Convention the movement makes certain promises to the youth of the nation. The Y.C.L. should initiate a discussion in the Student organizations and the American Youth Congress with a view of having these organizations establish contact with the Townsend clubs on the basis of the policy outlined above. (To be continued.)

### Party Life

DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL  
DEPARTMENT

### 500 New Recruits to Be Signed Up In Two-Months

On the basis of the District Committee resolution, the following practical plan of work is laid out, the objectives of which must be accomplished by March, 1936.

1. To recruit 500 new members; reduce fluctuation to a minimum, and to have 3200 functioning dues paying members in the Party.

2. To raise \$7500 for the Western Worker as a 1936 war chest fund, and to lay a definite basis in the units, subsections and sections for a circulation drive after the completion of the financial drive.

We list below the quotas for both Western Worker and recruiting drives:

New Members Western to be Recruited	Worker Quota
San Francisco	100
Los Angeles	200
East Bay	50
San Diego	24
San Bernardino	14
Sacramento	12
Contra Costa	10
San Jose	8
San Mateo	8
Bakersfield	8
Santa Barbara	8
Sonoma	8
Fresno	8
Stockton	8
Monterey	8
Arizona	6
Eureka	6
Merced	4
Porterville	4
Tulare	4
Nevada	4
At large-Dist. 13	175
500	\$7500

In order to achieve the above major objectives during the next two months, it will require a 100 per cent mobilization of the entire Party and all the sympathizers around the Party. Therefore, the Section Committees, Sub-section Committees and Unit Bureaus, also the Party fractions in trade unions and mass organizations must immediately work out plans on the basis of the directives sent out to the sections.

If every Party member and friend to the Party is given his or her share of this task, with a practical explanation and plan, we can go over the top on the above quotas by March.

## World Events

By Emmett Kirby

### Eden Faces New Job Of Helping Save Mussolini

Anthony Eden's appointment as the new British Foreign Secretary has been the occasion of a new blast from Mussolini in which he declares two Italian objectives: The speedy victorious completion of the Ethiopian war, and unification of the Italian nation in a fight against sanctions.

The first one seems to be running into innumerable difficulties—all of whom carry Ethiopian spears and fight like hell. The second is, in the opinion of even the capitalist experts, more bluff than otherwise for the support of the Italian people so far has been the "support" that is given by a man with a gun in his ribs.

The war has already cost the amount Mussolini figured the total would be, and complete victory is as remote as ever. Under the circumstances the suffering and privations of an already oppressed Italian people can only be increased, and Mussolini's security thereby decreased in proportion. The worldwide protest which killed the Hoare-Laval "peace plan," a frantic effort to save him (as well as to free British hands so she could give more attention to events in China) only made that more increasingly apparent.

Papers now make much of the known personal animosity between Eden and Benito. This is true enough, but Britain, no matter who her foreign secretary is, still remains a capitalist nation, and while Eden will no doubt push for continuation of existing sanctions or even for inclusion of the oil embargo when the League meets in special session January 10, new offers of peace to Mussolini can be expected as usual. If they are not such rank betrayals of Ethiopia as before, they will nevertheless be favorable to Mussolini and aimed at keeping him in power. Class interest is stronger than any idea of international justice, or of inner class rivalry, and both Britain and France fear what would result from Mussolini's overthrow by revolution at home or his defeat in Ethiopia. They have a bear by the tail. And the crash would inspire further advance of the working class at home, and would unquestionably weaken their hold on colonial and semi-colonial countries.

The talk of Eden now forcing the issue, and of the complete reorganization of the British army are more a club to threaten Mussolini into accepting the next offer—which, because of the pressure of the working class of Britain, France and the rest of the world, can not be so generous in its terms—than they are any move to go to war on Italy.

Eden, when he came back from Moscow months ago on his famous flying tour of Europe to feel out various nations and admitted the Soviet Union strives for peace, got his reprimand then and has no doubt learned his lesson or he would not be trusted with the new job. The sharp protest Hoare's maneuvers brought necessitated a change of men, but British imperialist policy has not changed because of that and Eden, the popular figure at home will be able, it is hoped to make the next effort at betrayal more palatable to the people.

Equally, it was important to remove the justified impression that Downing Street was ready to scuttle the League of Nations, in favor of helping retain bloody fascism in the world, and the appointment of Eden, then Secretary for League Affairs, was calculated to do just that.

The working class of the world, however, is better organized (in united fronts against imperialist war and fascism) than it was in 1914 and has learned considerably, though not yet fully, the lessons of that great slaughter. They are more alert now and the victory scored in the killing of the Hoare-Laval plot can and will be repeated in the future.

This is what makes Eden's job harder than anything Hoare faced, and all the ballyhoo about how "the white knight of Geneva" will carry the sanctions fight to the full against Mussolini is merely trying to help him put over what he is expected to do—get that Ethiopian war settled without getting Britain in or Mussolini out.